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**Thursday, August 10, 1972/
Sravana 19,1894 (Saka)**

LOK SABHA DEBATES

**Fifth Session
(Fifth Lok Sabha)**



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NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA

*Thursday, August 10, 1972/Sravana 19,
1894 (Saka)*

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Joint Management Councils in Public Sector Undertakings

*161. SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Joint Management Councils have been set up in all the Public Sector Undertakings ;

(b) if not, the reasons for not doing so ; and

(c) the number of Public Sector Undertakings in which the Joint Management Councils have not been set up as yet ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) :

(a) to (c). Joint Management Councils are set up by voluntary agreement between the employers and workers and so far such councils have been set up in 31 public sector undertakings. The scheme of Joint Management Councils has not made much headway. This may be due to the persistence of the habits and institutions inherited and failure to alter them radically.

SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER : What steps have been taken by this radical Government to alter the inherited habits and institutions so that Joint Management Councils are set up in all the remaining public sector undertakings ? And how long Government propose to take shelter under the plea of inherited habits and institutions ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : It is clear from the reply that, though every effort was made, neither the workers nor the management have taken the Joint Management Council set-up sincerely, as we desired. It would help them. After the report of the National Labour Commission, we are examining the whole question of joint consultation. As the hon. Member is aware, there are works committees. Now we will be having representation on the Board of Management itself. So, in a situation like this, this has been unsuccessful.

SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER : If the scheme of Joint Management Council has not made much headway, is it due to the fault of the management or the public undertakings or is it due to the fault of workers ? And if there are drawbacks in the scheme itself, what have Government done to rectify these ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : As I have made clear, workers do not respond. It is not the fault of the management. They do not discourage them from having Joint Management Councils. But the idea is that the workers themselves should take the lead and help in formation as well as in taking advantage of the Council for their purposes.

श्री रामसिंह भाई : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह ज्ञात है कि श्रम पक्ष को सद्युक्त परिषदों में कोई अधिकार नहीं है, केवल एक कैंटीन कमिटी जैसी वह है, इसकी उचित जांच करायेंगे ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : As I have said, this matter was examined by the National Labour Commission and they have made certain recommendations. They have taken this aspect also into consideration because Joint Management Councils have very limited power.

श्री हुकम चन्द कल्लूबाय : माननीय मंत्री जी ने अनेकों बार इस बात को कहा है कि एक ही

उद्योग में एक ही यूनियन यदि होगी तो उद्योगों में शांति होगी। हम इस फार्मूले से कार्य करने को तैयार हैं। जिस प्रकार से पार्लियामेंट में भी सभी पार्टियों के लोग हैं, इसी प्रकार हर एक उद्योग में जितने विचारों के लोग हैं उन को वहां अधिकार मिले प्रतिनिधित्व का, उसके आधार पर यह परिषद् पुनर्गठित की गई तो मैं ऐसा मान कर चलता हूँ कि काफी अच्छे ढंग से सारी व्यवस्था हो जाएगी। तो यह प्रथा आप लागू करने जा रहे हैं क्या ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : What the hon. Member has suggested is under active consideration of the Government and we would very much like industries to have one representative union so that the present anarchic or chaotic condition can be removed.

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बताएंगे कि जो प्रबन्धक बदलते हुए जमाने के साथ बदलना नहीं चाहते हैं उनके खिलाफ कोई कदम आपने उठाया है ? वह मजदूरों के साथ बैठना पसंद नहीं करते हैं। आपने कहा कि उनकी कुछ आदतें ऐसी हैं तो क्या उनकी आदतों में कुछ परिवर्तन हुआ या नहीं ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : So far as the Management Councils are concerned, I would not like to blame the management. Of course, there are some managements which are not very co-operative, but, by and large it is not correct to say that all managements are like that.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : In the course of his statement, Mr. Khadilkar, the Labour Minister has stated that there are already some statutory committees like the Works Committee and the Canteen Committee and the workers have no confidence in these committees and as such, the Government is not in a position to state now whether the Joint Management Council will serve any purpose or not. So, may I know what concrete steps the Government want to take at least to see that the decisions taken by the Works Committee are binding on both the workers and the management ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : The hon. Member is fully aware that because of the multiplicity of the unions, quite often the management takes advantage of the position and nothing is implemented. But, I know quite a number of cases where these proposals were implemented. There are some where these are not implemented. But, as I said we are going to have a comprehensive legislation on this subject.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The hon. Minister must be aware that during the last session of Parliament, the Public Undertakings Committee has submitted a report on Personnel Policies. I would like to know from him whether his Ministry has made a study of the specific recommendation in the PUC report to the effect that in all public sector undertakings there should be set up joint committees on an elective basis and whether his Ministry has brought this to the notice of the other employing Ministries of the Government of India and if so, what is their reaction thereto ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : I have seen this recommendation and we are considering how to implement it.

SHRI PILOO MODY : How long will you consider it ?

EPF Arrears with Companies in
West Bengal

+

*162. **SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :**
SHRI JAGDISH BHATTACHARYYA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state the names of the companies and the amount of Employees Provident Fund dues of workers lying with them in arrears in West Bengal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : The Provident Fund Authorities have reported that information regarding the Provident Fund dues payable by each company is not readily available. However, a statement showing the names of and amounts due from un-exempted establishments in default of payment of provident fund

dues of rupees one lakh and above as on the 31st March, 1972 as furnished by the Provident Fund Authorities is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3340/72]

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : I want to know from the hon. Minister what steps the Government propose to take to realise the arrears of provident fund of the workers.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : As I have already stated, we have found that the provision of punishment is not sufficiently deterrent. So, as I have said on the last occasion, we are bringing forward legislation where compulsory imprisonment will be provided.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : The West Bengal Chief Minister had once said that the owners of the companies failing to pay P.F. money of the workers would be arrested under MISA, I want to know if there has been any arrest for this purpose. Are there any cases like this ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : The Chief Minister's statement is based on a proposal and the proposal is something which is under consideration, because they want to have this element of 'compulsion' to be introduced. It is under consideration, as I have already stated.

SHRI JAGADISH BHATTACHARYYA : Here I find in this statement that the Anand Bazar Patrika, leading daily paper of West Bengal, have in arrears Rs. 13.32 lakhs towards the payment of provident fund. It is not a dead concern, it is fully alive and in view of this I would like to know from the Government whether they would stop supply of newsprint quota and giving advertisement in this paper till the Provident Fund money is deposited.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : In all, 73 are in arrears ; there is one case of a newspaper. What he says is a suggestion for action. I cannot say anything just now.....

SHRI JAGADISH BHATTACHARYYA : What is your thinking ?

MR. SPEAKER : He has taken it as a good suggestion.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : Rs. 13.32 lakhs arrears is there. It is a very important matter. In the case of collieries Government proposed some action. Why is no action taken in this case ? Why cannot they stop advertisement to this paper ?

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : I just want to know what is the quantum of money which lies in arrears with the different factories and managements. A certain Bill has been passed giving certain power and authorities to the Government to enforce the arrears. May I know what action was taken by the Government to realise the arrears ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : The total is Rs. 20.65 lakhs as on 31-3-72. The hon. Member is not correct. This House has not passed any legislation. It is only under consideration of the Government. It would be introduced as early as possible.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI : The Hon'ble Minister has said that the Government is in contemplation of passing a legislation, making imprisonment compulsory. How can this legislation be effective for past offences ? May I know why no action has been taken against the defaulters under the present provisions of law.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : I have time and again stated that certain action was taken even under the IPC. If you ask, on how many occasions, what were the reasons and all that

MR. SPEAKER : He asked about retrospective punishment, whether retrospective effect will be given

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : After this legislation before the House is passed we can do ; but it is difficult to make a provision like this. But we can consider it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The hon. Minister has just stated that Government are going to bring forward legislation. At present, any defaulter or defaulting unit or concern is fined only Rs. 500 or even Rs. 100 in certain cases and thus they go on merrily and they

pay the fine. I would like to know whether this legislation is likely to be brought forward during this session to realise the provident fund arrears which are mounting to the tune of Rs. 24 crores, and whether before the legislation is introduced, any penal or other measures will be taken, as for example, under the MISA in West Bengal and under the DIR throughout the country to bring them to book, because they are swindling money and they are not paying anything and they are depriving the workers of their dues ?

SHRI R K KHADILKAR : Every effort will be made to at least introduce this Bill during the current session. Beyond that, I cannot say.

SHRI S M. BANERJEE : The question that I have asked is what other measures are going to be taken before the introduction of the legislation

SHRI R K KHADILKAR : The provident fund commissioners are making every effort to realise the arrears. I can give the number of prosecutions launched, for instance

SHRI S M BANERJEE : They are just fined Rs. 500 or so.

SHRI R K KHADILKAR : .. Beyond that, I cannot do anything under the law as it stands

SHRI S. M BANERJEE : Can he recall any instance where any man has been sent to prison for one month or even the day ?

मजदूर संघों के पंजीकरण तथा मान्यता
के लिए समान विधान

+

*164. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय :
श्री लालजी भाई :

क्या अब और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की
कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मजदूर संघों के पंजीकरण तथा उनकी मान्यता के लिए और औद्योगिक विवादों के सम्बन्ध, देश भर के लिए समान विधान बनाने का विचार है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं और इस बारे में मान्यता प्राप्त तथा गैर मान्यता-प्राप्त मजदूर संघों की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) and (b). It is intended to enact a comprehensive industrial relations law, to cover all these aspects, in the light of the views expressed by all concerned at the tripartite or elsewhere. The details of the proposals are being worked out

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मजदूर संघों की मान्यता का प्रश्न बड़ा विवादास्पद और पेचीदा है। प्रायः सभी मजदूर संघों का ऐसा विचार है कि गुप्त मतदान प्रणाली के द्वारा उनकी मान्यता तय की जाए, लेकिन सरकार अभी भी उस बारे में कुछ तय नहीं कर पा रही है। सरकार का उच्चार है—“The details of the proposals are being worked out.” अभी तो सरकार तय भी नहीं कर पा रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार इसके लिए कोई समय सीमा निर्धारित कर के बनला सकती है, 2-4 या 6 महीने में कब तक वे अपना काम्प्रोहैसिव इनेक्टमेंट ला सकेंगे ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : In the reply we have stated that we are already considering the legislation itself. But before its introduction, as the hon. Member knows, we had to consult the State Labour Minister after the tripartite. That consultation is taking place, and once that is over and all the hurdles are removed the Bill will be brought forward.

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : मंत्री महोदय ने अपने उत्तर में यह भी बतलाया है कि जो काम्प्रोहैसिव इण्डस्ट्रियल रिलेशन्स का लाह लाते वाले हैं उस पर विचार किया गया है या विचार किया जाएगा, जो उनके सामने आया है और उनमें सभी मुद्दों पर विचार होगा। लेकिन मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि लेबर कमीशन ने कलम

4 वर्ष पहले अपनी रिपोर्ट दी थी, उसमें इन सब बातों पर विस्तार से प्रकाश डाला था, क्या उस पर भी विचार किया गया है? उसको इसमें शामिल किया है या नहीं किया है—इसके बारे में सरकार क्या कहना चाहती है?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : As the hon. Member says, the proposals made by the National Labour Commission were considered at various tripartite meetings. Unfortunately, at the first meeting, one major national trade union did not come and another walked out at the last minute. So, the progress was held up. But fortunately now, they have come in and instead of stalling the progress, they are helping to see that our legislation is not delayed any longer.

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया। क्या कोई समय सीमा बतला सकेंगे, इसके लिए कोई निश्चित सीमा होनी चाहिए?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Our efforts are to bring it forward during this session but I do not think that it is a possible thing, but during the next session, definitely, a comprehensive industrial relations law will be introduced.

श्री लालजी भाई : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि भारतीय मजदूर संस्थाओं द्वारा मान्यता के बारे में चुनाव प्रणाली में बॉलट सिस्टम की मांग की गई है तो उस पर सरकार का क्या विचार है?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : So far as the question of recognition is concerned, we are following the method of verification. But in the National Council of Trade Unions, three major organisations reached a limited accord which is the basis for further consideration. If there is a minor difference between in membership two contending parties or unions, we will follow the method of ballot; otherwise, it will be verification.

श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मजदूर

संघों का पंजीकरण तथा उसकी मान्यता का आधार क्या है और क्या उन्हें इस बात की जानकारी है कि बहुत से ऐसे बिना मान्यता प्राप्त मजदूर संघ भी हैं जो कि अपने अधिकारों की मही मांग उठाते हैं तो भी उनको टुकड़ा दिया जाता है? यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Under the new legislation, there will be compulsory registration and the present anomalous position will be removed.

SHRI PILOO MODI : For the last so many years we have been hearing about this process of verification and whatever have you. I cannot understand why a simple legislation demanding or requiring free and fair elections cannot be adopted and Government are hesitating. Because they want to hesitate, they go to the pretext of saying that 'we are consulting this union and that union' and 'the other unions and major unions are not agreeing'. Obviously, those people who are in industry do not want verification or any election procedure. So unless Government decide to take some stern measures I do not think they are going to find a solution. That is why I would like to know what is it that is inhibiting Government *suo motu* bringing forth legislation which requires that all union activity and recognition will be on the basis of the democratic process which is acceptable to the rest of the country.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : I am glad the hon. member has turned to trade union activity perhaps for the first time. He is not familiar with the trade union field as such. If he were, he would have known that the process of legislation in regard to industrial relations is based on tripartite consultation involving the employers, workers' representatives and Government. After a good deal of effort, we have succeeded in having this limited accord. Merely saying that the democratic process should be introduced has no meaning so far as industrial relations are concerned.

SHRI PILOO MODY : I am talking about recognition.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : As I said, recognition is part of this industrial relations law. If he is suggesting ballot or verification that is the main point of contention. There, as I have said, we are not having only verification as it is today.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Are they going to doctor those elections also ?

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार को पता है कि यूनियन का ठीक से रजिस्ट्रेशन न होने से और यूनियन को ठीक से मान्यता न देने की वजह से मेम्बर आपस में झगड़ते हैं और मिल प्रालिक से भी झगड़ते हैं और इसकी वजह से उत्पादन गिर जाता है ? क्या सरकार को अन्दाजा है कि किस पर्सेंटज में इसकी वजह से उत्पादन गिर जाता है और उसको ठीक से बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : The hon. member is perfectly right in his description of the present state of affairs in the trade union field, because inter-union rivalry and multiplicity of unions have no doubt effected production. Therefore, this comprehensive legislation is contemplated.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : किम पर्सेंटज में उत्पादन गिर जाता है ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : That is very difficult to say

श्री हुकम चन्द कलबाय : मैं आपके माध्यम से जानना चाहता हूँ जिनकी यूनियनों का रजिस्ट्रेशन है उनके अपने उद्योगों में काम करने के क्या-क्या अधिकार हैं क्या यह बात मही है कि उस यूनियन के प्रतिनिधि, चाहे सरकारी उद्योग व संस्थान हों अथवा गैर-सरकारी—उस यूनियन के प्रतिनिधिमण्डल यदि व्यवस्थापकों से मिलना चाहते हैं तो वे इन्कार करते हैं और यदि उस यूनियन के द्वारा कोई पत्र दिया जाए तो उसका जवाब नहीं दिया जाता ? ऐसी स्थिति में उस यूनियन को क्या करना चाहिए ? क्या आपकी ओर से उद्योगों को सर्कुलर गया है कि जो यूनियन के पदाधिकारी हैं जिनका रजिस्ट्रेशन

हुआ है उनको एक स्थान से दूसरे स्थान पर न किया जाए लेकिन फिर भी आपके सर्कुलर का पालन नहीं किया जा रहा है—यह बात आपकी जानकारी में है क्या ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : A trade union could be registered with seven members, and so, mere registration of a trade union does not entitle it for the right, our effort is to evolve a formula where representative unions will be in every plant and industry and then the management would be compelled to deal with them with due regard and care.

श्री हुकम चन्द कलबाय : रजिस्टर्ड यूनियन के पदाधिकारियों का स्थानान्तरण नहीं हो सकता है, ऐसा सर्कुलर आपकी ओर से गया है लेकिन उसका पालन नहीं किया जा रहा है उद्योगों में तो उनके सम्बन्ध में आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय यह प्रश्न इससे उठता नहीं है ।... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री मुल्की राज सैनी : क्या मंत्री महोदय बतायें अगर किसी कारखाने में मान्यता-प्राप्त यूनियन हो तो उग कारखाने में गैर-मान्यता प्राप्त यूनियन के साथ समझौता किया जा सकता है और क्या वह समझौता बंध होगा ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : प्रश्न यह था कि जो नया कानून आने वाला है वह यूनियन बनाने के लिए क्या कर रहे हैं ।

श्री मुल्की राज सैनी : जिस स्थान पर एक मान्यता प्राप्त यूनियन है वहाँ दूसरी यूनियन के साथ मान्यता प्राप्त नहीं है, कोई समझौता किया जा सकता है और क्या वह समझौता बंध होगा ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप हाईपाथेटिकल क्वेश्चन क्यों करते हैं ? स्पेसिफिक क्वेश्चन करिए ।

श्री मुल्की राज सैनी : हेवी एलेक्ट्रिकल्स, हरिद्वार में समझौता किया गया है गैर-मान्यता प्राप्त यूनियन से तो क्या वह बंध है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप किसी खास कन्सर्न में क्यों चले गए हैं ?

श्री मुल्कीराज सेनी : मान्यता प्राप्त यूनियन की प्रमुख बातें हैं उसमें यह प्रश्न आता है ।
... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : You have rightly pointed out that it does not arise out of this, but, if you permit me to reply, I will reply.

MR SPEAKER : I am sorry ; we are off the point. I would very much like that they should ask questions, but then what they ask should be within the scope of the question. Well, if you can briefly answer the question, you may answer.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : There are some instances where recognised unions are bypassed and negotiations take place with another union. But, at the same time, in such cases, quite often, though a union may be recognised, the non-recognised union has a greater striking power. That is the difficulty.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS *rose*—

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry. This has taken much time.

SHRI S. B. GIRI : I would like to put a simple question to the Minister of Labour ; only one question. (*Interruption*)

AN HON. MEMBER : It is an important issue.

MR. SPEAKER : All right ; if it is such an important question, I shall start from this side. But you never let me cross more than four or five questions in an hour. That is so bad. Yes ; Mr. Dinan Bhattacharyya.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : May I know whether it is a fact that the National Council that is going to be formed is more or less consisting of the trade unions at the Central level, which are unanimous with the ruling party, and so, will the question of recognition and the legislation that you are

bringing be dealt with on the same model, or, will the question of recognition be dealt with exactly on a democratic basis ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : It is absolutely wrong to say that Government had anything to do with the formation of the National Council of Trade Unions. The national trade unions such as the INTUC, AITUC and HMS have combined and have created one centre for unity. The others are not banned. If the hon. Member desires to join, certainly the doors are open. There is no question of Government manoeuvring that these three unions should follow a particular line.

SHRI S. B. GIRI : Just now the hon. Minister said that any seven persons can get registered as a trade union but 'we do not give them any facilities.' These things are going on for the last 25 years. If you are not going to give any facilities why should other unions be registered. I want to know whether the proposed legislation provides multiple unions or only one union will be registered and recognised ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : The hon. Member knows fully well that the National Labour Commission has recommended an industrial relations commission. This power to decide is left to that body.

SHRI S. B. GIRI : My simple question is whether that legislation provides for multiple unions.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Under our Law if seven persons decide to form an association, we cannot ban it. In order to eliminate multiplicity of unions, the percentage of support that a union enjoys among the workers is a criterion for recognition.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Experience shows that workers belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes are getting step-motherly treatment even at the hands of trade unions and there have been cases where recognition to Scheduled Castes Workers had been denied by the Government. Do Government propose to accord recognition to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes workers, in view of the special circumstances in which they are placed at least so long as there are reservations ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : In the trade union field fortunately there is no question of recognition of caste and caste-based unions ; we do not encourage that idea. I know the disabilities of these people but I would plead with the hon. Member that if we introduce this principle the very basis of the trade union movement will be shattered and so many other problems will crop up.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : My question is based on facts that have come to our light. The Ministry of Home Affairs have directed all the departments and the public undertakings to appoint liaison officer to look after the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. It is our sad experience that instead of getting sympathy from the liaison officers, there is harshness...

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order. What part of your question has not been answered ?

SHRI BUTA SINGH : These people do not get a fair deal even from the trade unions and there should be some way whereby they could get their grievances redressed.

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI : Has the Gujarat Government sought concurrence of the Central Labour Ministry to amend the existing State labour legislation and that the Central Labour Ministry given its concurrence or not ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Several proposals from Gujarat Government have come to us. To some of them we have given our concurrence. Others are under examination.

Discussion on Report of Central Wage Board for Port and Dock Workers

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*165. **SHRI PILOO MODY :**
SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the report of the Central Wage Board for Port and Dock workers were discussed in a meeting with the representatives of the Port and Dock workers ;

(b) the names of the Unions which took part in the discussion ; and

(c) the major decision taken in the meeting ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) :
(a) A tripartite meeting was convened on the 3rd February, 1970, to consider the recommendations made in the final report of the Wage Board ;

(b) Representatives of the All India Port and Dock Workers' Federation, Bombay ; the Indian National Port and Dock Workers' Federation, Calcutta ; and the Port, Dock and Waterfront Workers' Federation, Madras took part in the discussions.

(c) It was decided that the unanimous and majority recommendations of the Wage Board on matters covered by its terms of reference may be accepted.

SHRI PILOO MODY : First of all, I would like to ask permission from the rehabilitation Minister that not being a dock worker, I may be permitted to put a question to him. So many times these meetings have been held and yet strikes persist in the Calcutta docks. I would like to know, therefore, from the Minister whether he has at any time attended any of these meetings and persuaded the unions there to cooperate with each other and whether as a result of this, some permanent settlement can be arrived at by which we do not have these recurring strikes which are playing havoc with the development of the nation ? When these unions are invited. Do you invite all the unions or only those unions you would like to talk to ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : We invite all the three federations. They are most representative. The hon. member is not aware that fortunately in ports and docks comparatively peace has prevailed during the last one year and more. There was no major strike at all. Minor incidents were there and they were settled. So far as the wage board recommendations are concerned, it took a long time. In 1964 the wage board was set up. In 1969 the recommendations were made. After giving careful consideration

all the unanimous recommendations were more or less implemented. Some anomalies are being examined.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Just now the Minister referred to certain anomalies which had cropped up in the course of the implementation of the wage board report. I would like to know specifically what machinery has been set up to go into these anomalies both on the port side and on the dock side, whether that machinery has started functioning and how many cases of these anomalies have been submitted for discussion and decision ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : At the last meeting attended by the Minister for Transport and Shipping, myself, the officers concerned and the representatives of workers, the procedure for setting these anomalies was sorted out. The representatives were asked to form a committee. I think perhaps the hon. member is a member of that committee

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The suggestion was made to set up a machinery. Has that machinery been set up ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : If we accept their recommendations, well and good. But if some residue remains and if there is some ground uncovered by the committee, that will be examined. I would like hon. members to be a little more active on this front.

Setting up of Inter-departmental Committee for Steel Development Programme

*167. **SHRI RAMKANWAR :**
SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether an inter-Departmental Committee has been set up for preparing integrated long-term Steel development programme ;

(b) whether any guideline has been given to the Committee in preparing such a programme ; if so, the main features thereof ; and

(c) the time by which the Committee is expected to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Task Force on Iron and Steel has recently been constituted by the Planning Commission to formulate proposals for the Steel Development Programme for the Fifth Plan, keeping in view the broad perspective of the iron and steel industry in relation to the likely levels of demand, capacity and production covering the Sixth and Seventh Plans

(c) The Task Force is scheduled to submit its Report by December, 1972.

श्री रामकंवर : अद्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो पिछले कुछ ही दिनों में लोहे की कीमत 100 रुपये टन से भी ज्यादा बढ़ गई है तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहूँगा कि वह जो अन्तर्विभागीय समिति बनाई गई है वह समिति कोई ठोस कदम उठाने जा रही है ताकि लोहे की कीमत कम हो और छोटे प्राइवेट उद्योगों को तकलीफ कम हो ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : The work of the Task Force will not cover the question of steel prices but only the question of demand, capacity and production.

Visit of Officers of NMDC to Delhi from Hyderabad

*168 **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether on various occasions, officers of National Mineral Development Corporation had to come to Delhi from Hyderabad ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the journeys performed by the various Officers every month since the Office was shifted to Hyderabad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For attending meetings and holding discussions with various Ministries of the Government of India, like Ministry of Steel and Mines, Ministry of Finance, Planning

Commission and the Railway Board and other undertakings like Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation, National Industrial Development Corporation and Directorate General of Technical Development, Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, etc., with which National Mineral Development Corporation has dealings and also to attend to other official business.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I wanted to know specifically whether after the shifting of the offices of the NMDC to Hyderabad—you may also tell us when it was shifted—a large number of officers are still having to come from Hyderabad to Delhi to pursue their discussions with all the various Ministries and agencies which he has mentioned and, if so, what was the purpose of shifting the offices from Delhi to Hyderabad at great expense when all the work of this office has to be done in consultation with other agencies at Delhi?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : The office was shifted to Hyderabad in two batches. The first batch arrived in Hyderabad on the 21st February 1972 and the second batch on 28th April 1972. It is true that sometimes officers have to go to Delhi to hold consultations. There is a directive from the Cabinet Secretariat that various corporations which are concentrated in Delhi should be dispersed. The move of the National Mineral Development Corporation to Hyderabad took place mainly because we felt that from Hyderabad we will be able to control the various existing projects and new projects coming up in the South. It is easier for them from Hyderabad to control projects in Baila Dilla, Kiriburu, Kumaraswami and other areas.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I am aware of the directive of the Cabinet Secretariat about dispersal of headquarters of various corporations. But I would like to know from the Minister whether, when a specific decision is taken regarding a particular corporation headquarters, the economics of it, the expenditure which will be involved is taken into account or not and whether he is aware that the employees of the NMDC headquarters had objected to this dispersal on the ground that it would in the long run entail greater expenditure. That is why I wanted to know whether this was taken into account and whether in the course of the few months a large number of officers who are constantly having to rush

to Delhi from Hyderabad does not indicate that the employees were justified in the apprehensions which they had expressed.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : The difficulty which any Corporation faces outside Delhi in relation to coming to Delhi to discuss matters is also faced by the National Mineral Development Corporation after being shifted to Hyderabad. We had to take into consideration this fact, and having taken into consideration this fact, we came to the conclusion that it will be better from the point of view of functioning of the Corporation as well as from the general point of view of dispersal of offices from a central place like Delhi if the Corporation shifts its headquarters. I think, we are not dissatisfied with what has happened after that.

SHRI DASARATHA DEB : May I know whether the National Mineral Development Corporation had got their assets in Faridabad before shifting to Hyderabad and, if so, what has happened to those assets?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : The Corporation did have certain buildings in Faridabad and there was a proposal to sell them. I do not know the present position. If the hon. Member puts a separate Question, I will give the details.

SHRI K. BALADHANDAYUTHAM : Will the hon. Minister tell us what is the cost of shifting the headquarters of the Corporation to Hyderabad?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : I do not have the exact figures at the moment. A separate question may be put for that.

Meeting of Indian and Chinese Envoys at
Warsaw

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*170. **SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA :**
SHRI SAMAR GUHA :

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting between the Envoys of India and China took place at War-

saw on the 15th July, 1972; and

(b) if so, the nature of the subjects discussed at the meeting?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Chinese Ambassador met the Indian Ambassador at Warsaw on 14th July, 1972. It was a purely courtesy call and the conversation was of a general nature.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : We are aware that in diplomatic relations, the word "courtesy" has a different meaning. U.S.A. and China had so many courtesy calls in Warsaw and we know what is the outcome.

I want to know from the Government whether the Government of China has changed their attitude in regard to the functions organised by Indian diplomatic missions in different countries, whether they participate in these diplomatic functions and whether, recently, Mr. Kaul who visited Kathmandu had a meeting with the Chinese Mission envoy there.

MR. SPEAKER : From Warsaw you have come to Kathmandu.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : As I have said, as far as this meeting is concerned there was nothing in it. It was purely a courtesy call on our Ambassador. They talked about generalities and no substantial matter was discussed. As regards the behaviour of the Chinese Ambassador, there has been a certain change in their attitude, in their behaviour in the last two or three years and they have now been behaving according to the normal diplomatic etiquette.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What is standing in the way of re-establishing full diplomatic relations? The Minister says, they are behaving according to diplomatic conventions. Please give us a chance to put supplementaries on it. This chance does not come every time.

MR. SPEAKER : This Question is only about the Warsaw meeting.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : This is about talks taking place between two Governments.

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow some supplementaries.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : The word "courtesy" has a different meaning in diplomatic relations. We know that. Therefore, just using word "courtesy" does not really give us any hint of what has happened. In diplomatic world, courtesy means only formal functions, courtesy of seeing each other or meeting each other. It is not a courtesy call of any nature that came in the papers.

In view of the laconic reply given by him and in view of what he has said that China has recently changed its attitude towards attending the functions organised by Indian diplomatic missions abroad, I would like to know from the Government whether by taking advantage of the changed attitude of China the Government of India has taken any initiative to come to some kind of understanding with China in the restoration of proper normal relations between India and China.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : Sir, when I talked about change in their attitude, I did not mean change in China's attitude towards India. I meant the change in the behaviour of Chinese Ambassadors abroad. They are acting more in conformity with the normal courtesies which are observed by the diplomatic corps. As far as China's attitude towards India is concerned, the position remains the same. Our relationship with China are frozen. We have made a number of proposals to normalise the relations. As has been said before, there has been no positive response from China's side.

MR. SPEAKER : We leave it here; we pass on to the next Question.

Reopening of Indo-Pak Borders

*171. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a possibility of an early reopening of borders between India and Pakistan; and

(b) if so, when the traffic between the two countries would be resumed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). In accordance with paragraph 3 of the Simla Agreement, the steps required for resuming travel facilities will be worked out when delegations of the two countries meet. A date for this meeting has not yet been fixed.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : The Simla Pact is another milestone in the history of international politics to establish durable peace in the sub-continent. To further strengthen the peace between these two countries and not to give any handle for beating empty drums by certain political parties in the country to create certain situation, may I know whether Government of India would take further steps to reopen all relations between Pakistan and India, and if so, what are the immediate steps taken and proposed for the meeting which is likely to take place between the delegations of Pakistan and India ?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : As I have said in my main reply to the question, a number of steps are to be taken to normalise relations. Under paragraph 3, as the hon. Member may be aware, in order progressively to restore and normalise relations between the two countries step by step, it is agreed that a number of steps are to be taken : steps shall be taken to resume communications—postal, telegraphic, sea, land including border posts and air links including over-flights ; steps are to be taken to promote travel facilities and to bring about trade cooperation and cooperation in economic fields and exchanges in the fields of science and culture. All these things are to be given effect to as soon as possible. But the actual details will be worked out by the two delegations when they meet. The date for the meeting, as I have said, has not yet been fixed.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Under paragraph 3, steps are to be taken to resume communications—postal, telegraphic, sea, land including border posts and air links including over flights. May I know whether these items are being covered in the meeting that is likely to be held between the delegations of these two countries ?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : It is very difficult to say at this stage what will be

the items in the agenda for discussion, but all these subjects are likely to be covered.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : शिमला समझौते के मातहत पाकिस्तान का जो भाग हमारे जवानों ने लिया था वह हम वापस दे रहे हैं। लेकिन छम्ब जोड़िया का जो इलाका पाकिस्तान के पास है उसको वह वापस नहीं कर रहा है। क्या उसके वापस करने के बारे में आप कोई चर्चा करने जा रहे हैं ?

MR. SPEAKER : The main question is about the possibility of an early reopening of borders between India and Pakistan and if so, when the traffic will be resumed. Your question is not relevant here.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या इस बात के समय आप इस पर चर्चा करने जा रहे हैं कि जो भूमि का यह भाग पाकिस्तान ने हमसे छीना है और जिस पर उसका कब्जा है उसको वह वापस करे।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब आप बैठ जाइये।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय जवाब देने के लिए तैयार हैं, आप उनको रोकते क्यों हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपने पहले दिन ही काफी कुछ कर लिया था।

राजस्थान में खनिज सम्पत्ति के लिए सर्वेक्षण

*172. श्री मूलचन्द डामा : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राजस्थान के उन सभी भागों का भू-तत्वीय सर्वेक्षण हो चुका है जहाँ खनिज पदार्थ उपलब्ध हैं; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो कौन-कौन से खनिज अधिक मात्रा में उपलब्ध हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a result of geological surveys conducted by Geological Survey of India, sizeable deposits of copper, lead-zinc, pyrrhotite, limestone, phosphorite, gypsum, asbestos, bentonite and Fuller's earth, clay, mica, talc and building stones have been found in various parts of Rajasthan.

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जिआलोजिकल सर्वे कब समाप्त होगा ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : जिआलोजिकल सर्वे अपना काम हमेशा जारी रखता है। वह खोज करता है। जब एक जगह कुछ मिल जाता है तब वह दूसरी जगह खोज शुरू करता है, और माननीय सदस्य को बतलाते हुए मुझे बड़ी खुशी होती है कि जिआलोजिकल सर्वे ने राजस्थान में बहुत कीमती मिनरल्स मालूम किए हैं।

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : राजस्थान में जो कीमती मिनरल्स निकले हैं उनको देखते हुए क्या वहाँ पर कोई इन्डस्ट्री लगाने का विचार है या क्या वहाँ के मिनरल्स को इस्तेमाल करने का कोई इरादा है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : आप को पता है कि कापर ओर के लिए खेतड़ी में काम शुरू है। उदयपुर में जिंक के लिए है और फटिलाइजर बनाने का काम करने की हम सोच रहे हैं। जहाँ-जहाँ मिनरल मिलते हैं उन का इस्तेमाल किया जा रहा है और उनकी इन्डस्ट्री वहाँ लगाई जा रही है।

श्री नवल किशोर शर्मा : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सच है कि राजस्थान के बहुत से मिनरल्स को सेंटर अपने अधिकार में लेने की कोशिश कर रहा है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो निकालने के बारे में सवाल है, पहले कैसे ले लेंगे ?

श्री नवल किशोर शर्मा : जो निकले हैं उन को ले रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी तो खोज हो रही है।

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : जो मिनरल्स वहाँ से निकलते हैं उनका मुक्त के फायदे के लिए इस्तेमाल किया जाता है और हमारे जज करने का यही तरीका है कि जो चीज मुक्त के फायदे में होती है वही हम करते हैं।

श्री राम कंवर : राजस्थान के विभिन्न जिलों में कुछ खनिज पदार्थों का दोहन हो रहा है और कुछ खनिजों का दोहन पहले से ही हो चुका है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या राजस्थान के बांमबाड़ा और डूंगरपुर आदि जिलों में रेलों के अभाव में खनिज दोहन ठीक से नहीं हो पाया है ? इस बारे में सरकार क्या विचार कर रही है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह जिआलोजिकल सर्वे के बारे में सवाल है।

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : यह सवाल रेलवे विभाग से पूछने की जरूरत है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह मंत्री महोदय पहले रेल मंत्री थे, अब नहीं हैं।

श्री राम कंवर : मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि क्या रेलवे के अभाव में इन खनिज पदार्थों का ठीक से दोहन नहीं हो रहा है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मुझे कोई ऐनराज नहीं है, लेकिन यह सवाल इसमें आता नहीं है। मैं क्या कहूँ ?

Gold Deposits in Andhra Pradesh

*175. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether investigations carried out in the Ramgir gold field in Anantpur District, Andhra Pradesh have indicated the possibility of developing the area into a mine ;

(b) if so, whether any steps are being taken in this direction ; and

(c) the estimated potential of the gold deposits in the area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India in the Ramgiri gold field area of Andhra Pradesh have indicated potentiality of the field for gold production

(b) The Bharat Gold Mines Private Limited have prepared a scheme to recommence operations in the Ramgiri Gold Belt and have proposed to take up Chinnabhavi and Jibutli mines first. The scheme is under examination by the Government.

(c) The reserves estimated by the Geological Survey of India are of the order of 2.1 lakh tonnes of gold bearing ore upto 100 metres. There is likelihood of 25.2 lakh tonnes of gold ore upto a depth of 300 metres. Further exploration in detail would however be necessary to have a firmer idea of the potential of the gold deposits in the area.

SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY : May I know when further investigation will be taken up and the explorations completed?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : The hon. Member probably knows that these are all very old workings. These mines were worked by Mr. John Taylor and Sons from 1906 to 1946 or so; they worked for a long period, but they were abandoned. Now the idea is again to revive the working in those areas. Certain geological surveys have been done in the last few years. The investigations have revealed that there are approximately five to six grammes of gold per tonne in that area and we felt that it is workable.

SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY : A private company's name is mentioned by the Minister. What is its role in this connection? What has the Bharat Goldmines (Private) Company to do with this work?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : The hon. Member is misinformed. The Bharat Goldmines Limited is a public sector corporation in which 100 per cent shares are owned by the Government.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Withdrawal of Pak Complaints from ICAO

*163. **SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN :**
SHRI M. M. JOSEPH :

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has withdrawn its complaint from the International Civil Aviation Organisation against the ban on over-flights by Pak planes after an Indian Fokker Friendship plane was hijacked to Lahore and blown up; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and whether India will be firm on its demand for compensation of the hijacked plane?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Investigation of reserves of Minerals along Kerala and Orissa Coasts

*166. **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH :** Will the Minister of **STEEL AND MINES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether investigations for the reserves of ilmenite, monazite and other heavy minerals have been carried out along with Kerala and Orissa coasts;

(b) if so, the result of the investigation; and

(c) whether the investigations will be followed up or extended to other coastal States?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b). The Atomic Minerals Division of the Department of Atomic Energy has been carrying out surveys in the coastal regions of Kerala since 1953-54 and in the coastal regions of Orissa since 1969 for the assessment of the ilmenite, monazite

and other heavy mineral reserves. The investigations are still in progress. This work is of a continuous nature and is being undertaken on a year to year basis as a part of the field investigations of the Atomic Minerals Division, since the coastal sands are unstable in nature and require to be reassessed over a period of time.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Piling up of Coke in Jharia Coal Fields

*173. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether coke worth rupees three crores is lying at the pitheads and bee-hive plant sites in Jharia coal fields owing to wagon shortage ;

(b) whether continued stacking is damaging the quality of the coke ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to clear the piled up stocks ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Railways, who are the main carriers of coal/coke, are taking steps to improve the availability of wagons. Besides, to meet the demand of consumers located at short distance, transport of coal/coke by road is being encouraged.

Indo-Bulgarian Talks

*174. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Indian Delegation recently visited Bulgaria and had talks regarding the development in the Indian sub continent and co-operation at the United Nations ; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The discussions showed close similarity of views of the two sides on the matters discussed. Both sides agreed on the usefulness of such discussions and decided to have similar consultation from time to time on questions of mutual interest.

Strike by Kanpur Textile Workers

*176. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :
SHRI B. K. DASCHOW-DHURY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Textile workers of Kanpur went on a day's token strike on the 17th July, 1972 demanding wage increase and interim relief ;

(b) if so, whether any step is being taken to intervene in the matter ; and

(c) whether the Central Labour machinery will also try to help the State Labour Machinery to persuade the mill owners to come to a reasonable settlement ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) According to the information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, workers of ten textile units went on one day's token strike on 17th July, 1972.

(b) and (c). The matter falls in the State sphere. It is understood, however, that the State Government intends convening a tripartite conference to discuss the demands of the workers.

Loss in Coal Production in West Bengal Collieries due to Power Crisis

*177. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal production in West Bengal collieries has been adversely affected by acute power crisis ;

(b) if so, the extent of loss in physical and financial terms ; and

(c) the steps, if any, taken to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As the power crisis is still continuing, the extent of the loss is yet to be assessed.

(c) The matter was taken up with the authorities concerned to avoid load shedding and power tripping in future as far as possible.

Setting up a Steel Plant in Kerala

*170. **SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 984 on the 25th May, 1972 regarding setting up of a steel plant in Kerala and state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India's investigation on the iron-ore deposits in Kerala has been completed ;

(b) if not, the time by which it is expected to be completed ; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a Steel Plant in Kerala during the Fifth Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The investigations are expected to be completed some time after the field season 1972-73.

(c) A view can be taken on any investment proposal only after the proved reserves of iron ore and their specifications are known.

Exploitation of Iron Ore Deposits in Bihar

*179. **KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge quantity of iron ore has been found in Palamau District (Bihar) ; and

(b) if so, the main features of the survey report and the steps Government propose to

take to exploit the unutilised ores ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b). The Geological Survey of India mapped the Palamau area in 1940 and conducted geophysical investigations in 1947. According to its report, beds of magnetite associated with hematite ore are known to occur on the top of the hillocks in the Palamau area. The main ore body is stated to be more or less massive magnetite. The estimated reserves are reported to be of the order of 3 to 4 lakh tonnes.

The deposits are already being worked by private parties for supply mainly to various coal washeries.

Cost Estimates of Khetri Copper Project

*180 **SHRI FATESINGHRAO GAEKWAD :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost estimates of the Khetri Copper Project has swelled to five times the original cost estimates ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the comparative figures thereof ; and

(c) the extent to which the increased cost estimates are attributable to the strikes by the labour in that project, and the steps Government propose to take to resolve the labour disputes ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b). The original cost estimate prepared for the Khetri Copper Project by a U.S. Consultant firm in 1962 was Rs. 22.44 crores which envisaged setting up of a Smelter Plant of the capacity of 21,000 tonnes of electrolytic copper per annum. In 1966, the scope of the Project was revised which provided for production of 31,000 tonnes of electrolytic Copper per annum and 600 tonnes of Sulphuric Acid per day to be utilized for the production of 1,94,000 tonnes of Triple Super-Phosphate fertilizer. According to the Detailed cost estimates of Khetri Copper Project prepared in 1968 by the Company for the expanded project construction cost was estimated at about Rs. 93 crores. These cost estimates were reviewed in March, 1972 and the revised cost of completion of the Project

is now estimated at about Rs. 115 crores. These revised estimates are under the scrutiny of the Government. The upward revision in the cost estimates as compared to the original estimate is mainly due to the following reasons :—

- (i) The scope of the project was substantially increased from the original plan of producing 21,000 tonnes of electrolytic copper from Khetri Mine to the present provision of producing 31,000 tonnes of electrolytic copper from Khetri and Koliha Mines and 600 tonnes of sulphuric acid to be utilized for production of 1,94,000 tonnes of Triple Super Phosphate fertilizer. This is bound to be reflected in the cost estimates.
- (ii) It became necessary to revise the earlier mining scheme to ensure that the mine production at the stipulated rates can be achieved as per time schedule. This necessitated additional mine openings and additional mining equipment for mechanised mining ;
- (iii) In the cost of Plants, the earlier estimates were based on preliminary process design, particularly in the case of Smelter and Refinery. With the completion of the Detailed designing, additional equipment not included in the earlier estimates had to be provided for in order to meet the process requirements.
- (iv) A part of the increase is also due to general escalation in the prices of equipment, material and services over the last 4 years ; and
- (v) The delay of about 2 years in the completion of the Project has also resulted in additional expenditure on supervision, etc

(c) It is not possible to give any precise information regarding the extent to which the increase in cost estimates is attributable to the strikes by the labour at the Project. It may however, be stated that the strike in October/November, 1970 delayed the mine construction programme by about one month and civil construction programme by about a fortnight. The strike which began on 11th July, 1972 besides resulting in delay in the Project construction

work, is also causing a loss of 1000 tonnes of copper ore production per day.

Whenever labour disputes could not be resolved by bilateral talks normal conciliation proceedings are resorted to. So far as the strike which began on 11th July is concerned, the disputes have been referred for adjudication by both the Central Government and State Government of Rajasthan.

Retirement of over-aged Staff in Hindustan Copper Limited

1601. SHRI SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state.

(a) the action Government propose to take for the retirement of over-aged officers and staff of the Hindustan Copper Limited Ghatsila, Bihar, numbering over 250 ; and

(b) how Government propose to fill up the vacancies so created by employing local people, who are qualified for such posts or by outsiders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) On 16.11.1970, Indian Copper Corporation, applied to the Certifying Officer, Industrial (Standing Orders) Act requesting for the modification of their works Standing Orders by adding new Clause 9 A relating to Retirement. Indian Copper Corporation had suggested the retirement age to be 58 years. However, the Certifying Officer, Industrial Tribunal, Patna, fixed the age of retirement as 60 years and the Standing Orders were modified accordingly. Some Unions as well as some employees of the Company objected to this and have filed appeals with the Industrial Tribunal, Patna. The matter is pending with the Industrial Tribunal and no decision has been taken

(b) Does not arise.

Salaries of Officers of Hindustan Copper Limited

1602. SHRI SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the action Government propose to take against salaries of the officers and staff of Hindustan Copper Limited, Ghatsila, Bihar enhanced by the Indian

Copper Corporation sometime before the take over of the Plant and to reduce the salaries above Rs. 2000/ ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : As far as known to the Government, the previous management of the Undertaking of Indian Copper Corporation Limited, had not enhanced the salaries of the officers and staff working at Ghatsila just before the Undertaking was taken over by the Government. At present there is no proposal to fix the ceiling of Rs. 2000/- on the salaries of the employees of the Undertaking of the Indian Copper Corporation Limited.

मध्य प्रदेश में कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा योजना

1603. श्री गंगा चरण बीसत : क्या अब और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा योजना के कितने अस्पताल, उप-भवन और औषधालय हैं तथा वे कहाँ-कहाँ पर हैं और उनमें कितने बिस्तरों की व्यवस्था है;

(ख) इन केन्द्रों के अन्तर्गत कितने कर्मचारी आते हैं ;

(ग) क्या उक्त केन्द्रों के कार्यकरण के बारे में शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं, यदि हाँ, तो उनका स्वरूप क्या है और उन पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है; और

(घ) मध्य प्रदेश में ऐसे कितने केन्द्र निर्माणाधीन हैं अथवा क्या योजना अवधि में ऐसे केन्द्र बनाये जाने का प्रस्ताव है और यदि हाँ, तो उसकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

अब और पुनर्वास मंत्री (जी आर० के० खासकर) : कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा अधिनियम, 48 के अन्तर्गत डाक्टरी देखभाल से संबंधित प्रशासन की जिम्मेवारी राज्य सरकारों की है। कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निवम ने निम्नलिखित सूचना दी है :—

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में वर्मचारी राज्य बीमा अस्पतालों और औषधालयों की संख्या क्रमशः 3 और 48 है। इनसे संबंधित विवरण सभा-पटल पर रखा है। [ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया। देखिए संख्या - LT—3341/72]

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश में प्रत्येक केन्द्र के अन्तर्गत आए हुए कर्मचारियों की 31-3-1972 को अनुमानित संख्या सभा पटल पर रखे गये विवरण में दी गई है। [ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया। देखिए संख्या LT - 3341/27]

(ग) गम्भीर प्रकार की कोई शिकायतें नहीं हुई हैं। दवाइयों इत्यादि की अभिकथित कमी की माधारण ढंग की कुछ शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई थीं, जिन्हें आवश्यक कार्यवाही के लिए राज्य सरकारों के पाम भेज दिया गया।

(घ) अभी केवल एक ही प्रायोजना, एक केन्द्र में, अर्थात् रायपुर, 75 पल्लों वाला तपेदिक का अस्पताल और कर्मचारियों के क्वार्टर, निर्माणाधीन हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त, 23.75 लाख रुपये की अनुमानित लागत दो और प्रायोजनाएं निर्माण के लिए मंजूर की गई हैं, अर्थात् ग्वालियर में 75 पल्लों वाला कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा अस्पताल और कर्मचारियों के क्वार्टर और रतलाम में एक 3 डाक्टरों वाला राज्य बीमा औषधालय तथा कर्मचारियों के क्वार्टर।

मध्य प्रदेश में कम्पनियों द्वारा कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि का जमा न कराया जाना

1604. श्री गंगा चरण बीसत : क्या अब और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में ऐसी कम्पनियों की संख्या कितनी है जिन्होंने अपने कर्मचारियों की भविष्य निधि की राशि जमा नहीं कराई है, हालांकि उन्होंने कर्मचारियों के वेतन के इसकी कटौती कर ली है ;

(ख) इन कम्पनियों के नाम क्या हैं और गत तीन वर्षों से वर्षवार उन पर भविष्य निधि की कुल कितनी राशि बकाया है; और

(ग) उनके विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है अथवा करने का विचार है ?

श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : (क) से (ग). सूचना भविष्य निधि प्राधिकारियों द्वारा एकत्र की जा रही है। यह यथा-समय सभा की मेज पर रख दी जाएगी।

मध्य प्रदेश में खानें

1605. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में खानों की संख्या कितनी है तथा उनमें कौन-कौन से खनिज पाए गए हैं और जिला-वार वे कहा-कहा पर स्थित हैं, और

(ख) उनमें सरकारी स्वामित्व तथा गैर-सरकारी स्वामित्व वाली खानों की पृथक्-पृथक् संख्या कितनी है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खान) (क) और (ख). जानकारी एकत्रित की जा रही है और प्राप्त होने पर सभा पटल पर रखी जाएगी।

Bangladesh Refugees in Eastern States

1606 SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are still a large number of Bangladesh refugees in Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura ;

(b) if so, the number of such refugees State-wise ; and

(c) the steps taken to send them to Bangladesh ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. All camp refugees in the States of Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura have been repatriated to Bangladesh.

As regards non-camp refugees, that is those who were staying with their friends and relatives, most of them have also returned to Bangladesh on their own. Isolated cases, as and when detected, are dealt with by the State Governments in accordance with the provisions of the Foreigners' Act, 1946.

Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee

1607. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Members of the Indian team which participated in the 13th Session of the Asian African Legal Consultative Committee in January, 1972 ;

(b) whether any identity of views was noticed in the discussion on the "Law of Sea" especially with reference to points like the breadth of territorial waters and limits of fishery zone ; and

(c) if so, the names of the countries holding views similar to those of India ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Indian Delegation to the 13th Session of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee held at Lagos (Nigeria) in January 1972 was composed of the following :

1. Shri Niren De,
Attorney General of India,
(Leader)
2. Dr. S. P. Jagota,
Director,
Legal & Treaties Division,
Ministry of External
Affairs (Alternate leader)
3. Shri C. V. Ranganathan,
First Secretary,
Permanent Mission of India
to the United Nations,
New York (Adviser).
4. Shri V. N. Nagaraja,
Joint Commissioner,
Ministry of Irrigation and
Power (Adviser).

5. Shri K. L. Sarma,
Law Officer,
Legal and Treaties Division,
Ministry of External
Affairs (Adviser)

(b) and (c). The Indian view that the breadth of territorial waters should be 12 nautical miles measured from the appropriate baseline and that an exclusive fishery zone should be established outside the territorial waters to protect the fishery interests of coastal States, found support among several Asian-African countries, including Ceylon, Kenya and Tanzania.

**Grant of Citizenship to Persons of
Goan Origin**

1608 PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number and the names of persons of Goan origin who failed to surrender their foreign passports within the stipulated period and from whom applications for the grant of Indian citizenship have been received

(b) whether all of them have been granted Indian citizenship, and

(c) the number and names of those whose cases have not been decided so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) to (c). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when available

Proto-type Schemes for Iron Ore Miners

1609 PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain Proto-type schemes recommended by the Committee for development of proto-type schemes for the benefit of iron ore miners are pending for approval with Government ; and

(b) if so, the period by which the final decision would be taken in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADIL-

KAR) : (a) Only one such scheme is under the consideration of Government.

(b) A decision is likely to be taken soon.

Central Cultural Committee

1610 PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether a Central Cultural Committee has been set up by the Government of India to review and regulate the activities of the foreign Cultural Centres in India,

(b) if so, the names of the Members of this committee, and

(c) the date on which it was constituted ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Committee comprises of the Foreign Secretary, Education Secretary, Home Secretary, Additional Secretary Department of Economic Affairs, Additional Secretary, Department of Expenditure and a representative of the ICCR

(c) The Committee was constituted on the 10th September, 1971

Export of Iron Ore from Bailadila Mines

1611 SHRI MARIAND SINGH OF REWA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) the quantum of Iron Ore mined out of Bailadila mines in Madhya Pradesh in 1971-72 and the extent of export out of that ore to Japan, and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange so earned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). The production during 1971-72, from Bailadila iron ore mines (Deposit No. 14) in Madhya Pradesh, was 37 60 lakh tonnes, out of which

36.46 lakh tonnes was exported to Japan; thereby earning foreign exchange to the extent of Rs. 2545 lakhs.

Drinking Water and Other Facilities for Coal Field Workers in Assam and Meghalaya

1612. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state the number of schemes which were completed by the Coal Mines Welfare Organisations for providing facilities such as drinking water etc. for the various coal field workers of Assam and Meghalaya State during the last three years and the amount spent during the period ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Violation of Coal Mines Regulations Act by Mines Owners in Assam, Meghalaya and Nagaland

1613 SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether majority of coal mine owners in Assam, Meghalaya and Nagaland are violating continuously the Mines Regulation Act;

(b) if so, the number and names of such mine owners who violated the Mines Act during the last three years ; and

(c) the action taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Benefits from Coal Workers Welfare Fund to Coal Field Workers in Assam

1614 SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal field workers of Assam are not getting any benefit from the Coal

Workers Welfare Fund for years ; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The workers of the Assam Coal-field are getting the benefits of welfare measures implemented by the Welfare Fund in that Coal-field.

(b) Does not arise.

Distribution of Iron and Steel to Rolling Mills in Assam

1615. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of iron and steel (pig iron and scrap iron) supplied to the various Rolling Mills in Assam during the last three years, mill-wise and year-wise ; and

(b) the productions made by them during the above period with the material supplied ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Long term gains earned by Coking Coal Mines

1616. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to any cases of Coking Coal mines where the owners have sacrificed any or all of their profits in the last 2/3 years for earning long term gains ; and

(b) the number of such cases brought to the notice of Government, the names of the Coking Coal mines, losses suffered and profits sacrificed and the particulars of the long term gains earned by them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI

SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). The owners of Khas Dharmaband Colliery had sometimes ago submitted a note to the Government setting forth their views on compensation in which they had alleged that they had suffered a loss of Rs. 4.5 to 5 lakhs upto March, 1971, on account of long term consideration and for the sake of scientific development.

Expansion of Durgapur Steel Plant

1617. SHRI M. S. SIVASAMY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the expansion of Durgapur Steel Plant as desired by the West Bengal Government ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). The question of expansion of Durgapur Steel Plant is under examination and a decision will be taken as soon as possible.

Making of Steel from Super Fine Dust

1618. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether our steel experts have examined the feasibility of using metal dust to make more steel, on the basis of a method developed at the Metallurgy College, Cardiff (Wales), England, which involves the use of dust, accruing at Steel Works, to bind the low-grade steel ores into half inch pellets, which are then fed back into the blast furnaces ; and

(b) if not, whether Government would examine the feasibility of making more steel from the super fine dusts, in view of steel shortage in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). Government are not aware of the specific method "involving use of dust accruing at Steel Works" stated to have been developed

at the Metallurgy College, Cardiff (Wales), England. Details of the same are being ascertained.

Use of sinter ore burden with improved productivity of blast furnaces is an accepted and widely used method which has also been adopted in all our steel plants except Indian Iron and Steel Co. Ltd Sinter utilises iron ore fines, flue dust from blast furnaces, limestone chips of smaller sizes, millscale and coke breeze, which are, except for iron ore fines, waste products in a steel plant.

The other method of ore preparation for blast furnaces is pelletisation, which is based on iron ore fines and blue dust, which arise during run-of-mine operation of an iron ore mine. Blue dust is not usable in sintering, but can be utilised for pelletisation. About 0.5 million tonnes of pellets are being exported annually from Goa. TISCO have installed a Pelletisation Plant of 0.9 million tonnes capacity. A sizeable programme for augmenting capacity for pellets is under consideration.

Filling up the Posts in Undertakings under Ministry of Steel and Mines

1619. SHRI AMBESH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 6668 on the 18 May, 1972 regarding filling up of posts in Undertakings under Ministry of Steel and Mines and state whether the requisite information has since been collected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : Yes, Sir. The requisite information relating to Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Steel and Mines is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3342/72].

S. C. and S. T. Employees in Ministry of Labour and Rehabilitation

1620. SHRI AMBESH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Class I, II, III and IV posts in his Ministry Department-wise ;

(b) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees out of the above ; and

(c) the number of posts, category-wise, referred to him to convert the same into general vacancies in the last three years for want of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes candidates ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha in due course.

Conversion of Reserved Vacancies into General Vacancies in Ministry of External Affairs

1621. SHRI AMBESH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts in Class I, II, III and IV services in Ministry of External Affairs referred to him to convert the same, category-wise, into general vacancies in the last three years for want of Scheduled Tribe candidates ; and

(b) the posts out of the above exempted by the Union Public Service Commission Consultation Exemption Regulations, 1958 for direct recruitment ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

Lack of Safety Precautions in Coal Mines in Bihar

1622. SHRI R. N. SHARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any reports from the Central Government's Officers-in-charge of Mining Safety about the lack of Safety precautions in mines in Bihar run by private individuals ;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to call for reports therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). As required under subsection (5) of Section 22 of the Mines Act, 1952, the Director General of Mines Safety has been sending from time to time, copies of notices issued by him under Sections 22(1), 22 (1A) and 22(3) of the Act indicating to the concerned managements for rectifications of the serious defects and contravention of Coal Mines Regulations by mines, which include coal mines in Bihar owned by private individuals also. Follow up action in respect of such matters is taken by the Director General of Mines Safety.

(c) Does not arise.

Cases of Violation of Mines Act in Coal Mines in Bihar

1623. SHRI R. N. SHARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of violations of Mines Act in Coal Mines of Bihar which have come to the notice of Government during 1971-72 ;

(b) the number of prosecutions launched and the outcome thereof ; and

(c) whether any other action has also been taken in the matter ; if so, the nature thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) 23,986 violations of the Mines Act, 1952 were detected during 1971-72.

(b) For serious violations, 44 cases were filed during 1971-72 out of which 40 cases are pending, two ended in conviction and two in acquittal.

(c) For dangerous conditions in mines 27 orders prohibiting working in mines under Section 22(3) of the Mines Act and for protective measures 23 and 7 orders respectively under Sections 22(1) and 22(1)(A) of the Act were also issued during the period.

Working Conditions in Koda and Jharkand Coal Mines of Bihar

1626. SHRI R. N. SHARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

TION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the appalling working conditions in Kedla and Jharkand coal mines of Bihar ;

(b) whether he proposes to visit the mines to study the working conditions there ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c) There are 45 working coal mines in Kedla and Jharkand area which are being worked by different managing contractors and about 7,000 persons are employed daily. All these units are having only open-cast workings. The Director General of Mines Safety is taking suitable action to ensure that the persons employed are not endangered and that the other provisions of law are complied with. During inspections by officers of Directorate General of Mines Safety dangerous working conditions were detected and others under Section 22(3) of the Mines Act have been issued in respect of 23 units and employment of persons for coal production prohibited till workings are made safe in accordance with the regulations.

Provision of Boots and Helmets for Coal Miners in Kedla and Jharkand Coal Mines of Bihar

1625 SHRI R. N. SHARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether under the safety regulations in force coal miners are required to be provided with boots and helmets ;

(b) if so, whether boots and helmets are provided in the Kedla and Jharkand coal mines of Bihar ; and

(c) if not, the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes

(b) No.

(c) The owners who are managing contractors of Kedla and Jharkand coal mines have been asked to provide boots and helmets to the workers

Wages of Coal Miners in Kedla and Jharkand Coal Mines in Bihar

1626 SHRI R. N. SHARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the minimum wage of a coal miner of Kedla-Jharkand region of Bihar as prescribed under the law and as actually given to him ;

(b) whether Government are aware that there are no arrangements to weigh the coal in these mines for the purpose of making payment on piece-rate basis ;

(c) whether Government are aware that the workers are paid much less on piece-rate basis than what they are entitled to due to lack of weighing arrangements ; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) There is no minimum rate prescribed under law for workmen in coal mines. The prevailing basic rates for quarry miners and pick miners in these mines are Rs. 5/- and Rs. 6/- per 50 Cft. respectively. As regards the Variable Dearness Allowance, there are 42 managing contractors working in the two collieries in addition to one block being run by the Receiver directly. The Variable Dearness Allowance is being paid at Rs. 2.13 by five managing contractors and the Receiver while the two managing contractors are paying at a lower rate of Rs. 1.62 and Rs. 1.77. The managing contractors pay wages to the workers employed for removal of overburden at Rs. 5.40 for earth cutting, Rs. 7.50 for earth fire clay and soft stone cutting and Rs. 10.80 for hard stone cutting for 100 cft. in both the collieries.

(b) Payments to piece-rated quarry miners and pick miners are made on measurements and not on weighment.

(c) and (d). No complaint has been received from workers regarding lack of weighing arrangements.

Agreement for Economic Cooperation with Yugoslavia

1627. SHRI DINESH SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement for economic cooperation exists with Yugoslavia ; and

(b) if so, the specific projects which have been set up so far under this agreement ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Economic relations between India and Yugoslavia are guided by the Trade and Payments Agreement 1962 and the Trade Expansion and Economic Cooperation Agreement among India, Yugoslavia and Arab Republic of Egypt.

(b) Some projects on electronic equipment have been identified to be set up under the Tripartite Agreement among India, Yugoslavia and Arab Republic of Egypt. However, the projects are not yet finalised.

Agreement for Economic Cooperation with Iran

1628. SHRI DINESH SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement for economic co-operation exists with Iran ; and

(b) if so, the specific projects which have been set up so far under this agreement ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes sir. The Indo-Iran Joint Commission on economic, trade and technical cooperation was set up in January, 1967 through exchange of letters.

(b) The following industrial projects, both in the private and public sector in India and Iran, have been set up so far :

1. A unit for manufacture of automobile spare parts has gone into production.

2. An Indian businessman who is resident of Iran has set up a factory for manufacture of electric cables under licence from PHILCO an Indian concern.

3. National Iranian Oil Company has participated in the setting up of the Madras refinery.

4. ONGC is partnering with IMINOCO of Iran for the exploration of offshore oil ; one of the fields named "Roustom Oil Field" was declared commercial in 1967-68.

5. National Industrial Development Corporation has helped Government of Iran in setting up a similar organisation in that country.

6. Engineers India Limited is providing technical know-how to an Italian firm in the establishment of an oil refinery in Iran.

Agreement with Sri Lanka for Economic Corporation

1629. SHRI DINESH SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement for economic co-operation exists with Sri Lanka : and

(b) if so, the specific projects which have been set up so far under the agreement ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Various proposals for economic co-operation are under consideration but no specific project has so far been set up under the agreement. In the field of industrial development, feasibility studies for five industries, viz. graphite based industries, rubber based industries, glass industry, manufacture of refractories and mica industry have been conducted by the Indian consultants.

Indo Egyptian Economic Agreement

1630. SHRI DINESH SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be

pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement for economic cooperation exists with Egypt ; and

(b) if so, the specific projects which have been set up so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) There is no bilateral agreement on economic cooperation with Egypt but there is a Tripartite Agreement on Trade Expansion and Economic Cooperation between India, Egypt and Yugoslavia.

(b) No specific project has so far been set up with Egypt under the Tripartite Agreement.

Report by U.N. Committee for Development Planning on Joboriented Economic Policy of Developing Countries

1631. SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI :
SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether U.N. Committee for Development Planning has stated that jobs for the unemployed and a minimum income to assure decent living standard must become the overriding objective of economic policy of the developing countries ;

(b) if so, whether India has examined the report : and

(c) If so, other points mentioned in the report ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : The United Nations Committee for Development Planning, in its report of the 8th Session, which was held from 10th to 20th April, 1972, concentrated mainly on various aspects connected with mass-poverty and unemployment. The Committee has pointed out that the aim, in the case of developing countries, should be to link up mobilisation of idle

labour as far as possible with measures for increasing production and, even more, for raising the rate of accumulation. The Committee lays stress on the elimination of unemployment and under-employment in developing countries.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The keynote of the report of the Committee on Developing Planning is the urgency of finding solutions to problems of mass poverty. The Committee's deliberations on employment policy and the strategy against poverty, expressed as they are in general terms, lay emphasis on transformation of institutional framework, promotion of labour incentive techniques, policies relating to reduction in income disparities, shifts in product-mix in favour of goods of mass-consumption, public construction programmes to absorb unemployed labour, etc. In addition, the Committee has observed (i) that developing countries must move their poverty reduction and employment goals from the periphery towards the centre of development plans ; (ii) that they must become as concerned with income and output distribution as with income and output generation ; and (iii) section of the population whose consumption standards do not meet a minimum level of living, consistent with human dignity, should be identified.

Implementation of West Bengal Jute Agreement

1632. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some jute mill-owners outside West Bengal have not yet implemented the West Bengal jute agreement ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to persuade the employers to give effect to the agreement ; and

(b) the names of the factories outside West Bengal which have not implemented the agreement fully ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : a) to (c). Presumably the reference is to the Jute Agreement signed by the parties

before the Joint Labour Commissioner, West Bengal on May 7, 1972. The matter falls in the State sphere. According to available information, the Agreement provides that it will be applicable to workers employed in the jute mills in West Bengal only. The question of its implementation by the jute mills in other States, would be a matter for the parties to take up with the State Industrial Relations Machinery concerned.

Execution of Sale Deeds for Houses Built for Displaced Persons from Pakistan

1633. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state ;

(a) the total number, location and other particulars of houses in colonies which were built for displaced persons from Pakistan throughout the country State-wise, in respect of which the sale deeds have not been executed so far and the reasons therefor ;

(b) whether there are certain houses in respect of which the total cost was adjusted towards claims but the sale deeds have not so far been executed as the actual owner is not traceable, if so, the particulars of such houses and the names of the persons who are paying house-tax etc., for such houses with authority under which they are doing so ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). The Government of India had constructed a large number of colonies for the rehabilitation of displaced persons from West Pakistan in various States and Union Territories, apart from the allotment of residential plots to the displaced persons. The total number of such houses/tenements/shops e.c. constructed for and by the displaced persons from West Pakistan was over two lakhs and twenty thousand. In pursuance of the policy of the Government to wind up the Settlement Organisation, financial and administrative arrangements have been conclude with some State Governments in respect of undisposed Government Built Properties in accordance with the provisions of the D.P. (C&R) Act, 1954 and records have also been

transferred to the State Governments. The information required by the Hon'ble Member will have to be collected from the field agencies and State Governments etc. The information apart from being voluminous will require considerable time for collection. The time and labour involved in collecting the data will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

However efforts are being made to finalise the sale deeds as early as possible.

Placing of Memorial Plaques in Connection with Celebration of Indian Independence

1634. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the renewed good neighbourly relations being established with Pakistan, Government will take steps for celebration of 25th year of Indian Independence by placing memorial plaques at places like Lahore, Peshawar and Karachi related with historic events of our national struggle ; and

(b) whether Bangladesh Government will also be requested to have plaques at places like Chittagong, Commilla, Dacca, Rajshahi and other jails associated with memories of national struggle and martyrdom of many revolutionaries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) This matter will be considered at the appropriate time.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Decision of International Court on Sky-jacking of an Indian Airliner to Lahore

1635. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Court has since decided the case between India and Pakistan over the skyjacking of an Indian Airliner to Lahore ; and

(b) if so, the decision of the Court and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Consumer Price Index of Industrial Workers

1636 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the consumer price index for industrial workers has been registering an upward trend in March and April, 1972 ;

(b) if so, the main features thereof ; and

(c) whether Government propose to do anything, to check this continuing upward swing in prices ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes.

(b) The rise was mostly due to rise in prices of cereals, pulses, oils, milk, sugar and vegetables.

(c) The Government has been operating a public distribution system in order to ensure adequate supply of major foodgrains and sugar at reasonable prices. In view of the recent pressure on the prices of food articles the State Governments have been advised to open as many fair price shops, both in urban and rural areas, as necessary. The question of extending the public distribution system to some other essential commodities is also under examination.

U.S.-Soviet Pact

1637. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made a study of the pact between Russia and U.S.A. in regard to restrictions on making and use of nuclear weapons ;

(b) whether Russia and U.S.A. informed India about the objectives and other features of the pact ; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). We have been informed in a general way that the Agreements are in the nature of a first step in curbing the nuclear arms race between the two countries.

Construction of Mahendra National Highway in Nepal

1638. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM : SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement between the Government of Nepal and India has been reached recently to construct Mahendra National Highway in Nepal ;

(b) if so, the total length of the Highway and the extent to which it is to be constructed by India, how much with Indian collaboration and how much by Nepal herself ; and

(c) the estimated expenditure to be incurred by India on the highway, and the time by which the work on the highway is expected to be started ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total length of the Highway is 1057 Kms. The Eastern Sector (256 Kms.) has been constructed by India and the Central Sector (251 Kms) is now to be constructed. This project is being executed by the Indian Co-operation Mission under the aid programme to Nepal. No portion has so far been constructed by Nepal herself.

(c) The estimated expenditure to be incurred on the Central Sector is Rs. 25.82 crores and the work is expected to commence this year.

Low Production of Ingots in Public Sector Steel Plants due to Detention of Railway Wagons

1639. **SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the detention of Railway wagons transporting steel ingots within steel plants has been found to be one of the major reasons for comparatively lower production of ingots in the public sector steel plants in the country ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Railway-owned wagons are not used for transporting steel ingots within the steel plants. If, however, the reference is to the detention of wagons carrying raw materials to the plants, while it is true that it is not possible to adhere to the free-time allowed by the Railways, this cannot be said to be a constraint on production of ingot steel. Every effort is also being made to release wagons quickly.

Engagement of Shri N. A. Palkhivala to plead India's case before International Court of Justice

1640. **SHRI D. K. PANDA :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have engaged Shri N. A. Palkhivala to plead India's case before the International Court of Justice on its aviation dispute with Pakistan ; and

(b) if so, the terms and conditions on which he has been engaged ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Shri N. A. Palkhivala has not charged any fees from the Government of India for appearing in the case before the International Court of Justice. He has been given air fare to The Hague and back as well as usual daily allowance for his stay there

Setting up of a Zinc Smelter at Vishakhapatnam

1641. **SHRI B. N. REDDY :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the progress made, so far, in setting up of a Zinc Smelter at Vishakhapatnam ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : In connection with the setting up of the Zinc Smelter at Visakhapatnam the Hindustan Zinc Ltd., who are implementing the project, have already submitted proposals for foreign technical consultancy. These are under examination in the concerned Departments of the Government of India. Arrangements for long term supply of zinc concentrates for feeding the smelter, with foreign suppliers are likely to be finalised soon.

Major portion of the land required has been acquired and orders are being placed for electrical equipment which will have long delivery schedules. Arrangements for water and power supply are likely to be finalised shortly with the State Government.

Agnigundala Copper Mines in Andhra Pradesh

1640. **SHRI B. N. REDDY :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the progress achieved so far in the work at Agnigundala Copper Mines in Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) the production capacity of the copper plant to be set up there ; and

(c) the time by which the production is likely to commence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Government have sanctioned a scheme for undertaking detailed exploratory mining and prospecting work at Nallakonda Copper Deposit in Agni-

gundala area at an estimated cost of Rs 35 lakhs. The work on the vertical Shaft has been completed. Incline Shaft is likely to be ready by March, 1973 together with drivages.

(b) and (c). The Detailed Project Report will be prepared on the basis of the detailed exploratory mining and prospecting work now on hand. At this stage, it is too early to decide on the production capacity of the copper plant to be set up there. The time schedule for commencing regular production will also be known only after the detailed project report has been prepared and investment decision taken.

**U.P. Working Journalists Association
Conference**

1643. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether 23rd Annual Conference of Uttar Pradesh Working Journalists Association was held at Varanasi on the 13th July, 1972 ;

(b) if so, whether the Chairman of the said Conference while addressing the conference had made a demand for the setting up of Third Wage Board for the Working Journalists and the employees ;

(c) whether the Chairman has also demanded interim relief for the working journalists and the employees till the recommendations of the Third Wage Board are finalised ; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The 23rd Annual Conference of the U.P. Working Journalists' Union was held at Varanasi on the 13th-14th, July, 1972.

(b) and (c). Yes.

(d) The matter would have to be viewed in the light of the observations of the National Commission on Labour and of the workers and employers on the general question of Wage Boards.

Payment of Bonus in Public Undertakings

1644. SHRI RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Public Undertakings where employees are paid bonus ;

(b) the quantum of bonus paid to them ;

(c) the names of remaining Public Undertakings where bonus is not paid ; and

(d) the reasons for non-payment thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The names of the Central Government public sector undertakings which have provided for bonus for payment to the employees in the accounts for 1970-71 and the quantum of bonus provided are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 3343/72].

(c) and (d) The names of public undertakings which do not appear to have provided for bonus are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—3343/72]. The non provision for bonus is mostly due to the companies coming under the bonus holiday.

Decision on "Failure of Conciliation" Reports

1645. SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the decision taken by Government on 115 "failure of conciliation" reports, which included disputes relating to earlier periods ; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in taking decisions on these pending reports ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION, (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b) Government have since taken a decision on 100 out of the 115 pending failure of conciliation reports. Fifty cases have been referred for adjudication and reference has been declined in the other 50 cases.

Fifteen cases are still pending decision for want of complete details. Lack of details and examination of issues in complex cases sometimes delay a decision.

Implementation of Recommendations of Various Wage Boards

1646. SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the unsatisfactory implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Boards in Iron Ore Mines, Heavy Chemicals and Fertilisers, Road Transport, Limestone and Dolomite Mines ; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to remove the hurdles in the way of implementing the Wage Boards recommendations in these sectors ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The recommendations are not enforceable statutorily and implementation is being secured mainly through persuasion and advice. It is also open to the parties to raise industrial disputes on the question of non-implementation in which case the machinery provided in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 could be set in motion by the "Appropriate Governments".

Improvement of Service by E.S.I.C.

1647. SHRI J. MAHTA GOWDER : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased state :

(a) the steps reported to have been taken by the Employees State Insurance Corporation during 1971-72 to improve the quality of the services rendered by it, particularly in regard to medical benefit ; and

(b) the action taken by Government on the report of the Special Officer who examined the legal, administrative and organisational matters connected with the integration of social security schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The E.S.I.C. has reported that

the following steps have been taken to improve the quality of services rendered by it :

Medical Benefits

(i) During the year 1971-72, 1,78,850 insured persons (family) units who were getting expanded Medical care have been provided full medical care including hospitalisation facilities.

(ii) The Capitation Fee payable to Insurance Medical Practitioners has been increased from Rs 20/- per Insured Person family unit per annum to Rs. 25/- per Insured Person family unit per annum with effect from 1-10-71. This has been done with a view to securing greater co-operation of the Medical profession for the benefit of the insured persons and members of their families.

(iii) The Corporation entered into the rate contract with manufacturers of drugs in respect of 109 medicines, injections and drugs.

Cash and other benefits

(iv) Speedier payments have now been ensured by reducing the statutory time limits for payments of various benefits under the E.S.I. Scheme.

(v) Where disablement from employment injury is likely to exceed 25%, immediate cash relief is afforded to the insured person in the form of provisional payment amounting to 75% of the estimated rate of benefit, pending regular assessment of disablement by the Medical Board. This procedure, which has been in operation on experimental basis, was extended during the year 1971-72.

(vi) Benefit due to a deceased insured person, which was hitherto paid only on production of a certificate by legal heir if the amount exceeded Rs 100/- is now paid without such certificate, on production of indemnity bond with one surety, subject to the limit of Rs 500/-.

(vii) Regulations have been amended to protect discharge from service of

a sick insured person for a period of 18 months in case of one group of diseases, and 12 months for the other group of diseases, being diseases for which Extended Sickness Benefit is payable under the Scheme.

(b) It has been decided to place the report of the Special Officer before the next session of the Indian Labour Conference. The matter will be examined further in the light of views of the Indian Labour Conference.

Repatriates from Sri Lanka

1648. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state the number of people of Indian origin repatriated from Sri Lanka since 1970, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) :

1970	7,988
1971	25,136
1972	19,211
(Upto 22-7-1972)		

Report of the Fuel Policy Committee

1649. SHRI SHUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA :
SHRI RAMKANWAR :
SHRI N. K. P. SALVE :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Fuel Policy Committee appointed in October, 1970 has since submitted its report ; and

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the Committee and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI

SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The Policy Committee has submitted Part I of its report entitled 'Fuel Policy for the Seventies'.

(b) A statement showing the important conclusions and recommendations of the Committee is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3344/72] The report is under consideration of the Government.

Setting up of Coal Banks

1650. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA :
SHRI B. S. BHURA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal Consumers' Association of India has approached Government for setting up coal banks in important cities ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal of the Association for setting up of coal banks is the same as of coal dumps, a scheme which was formulated for implementation during the Third Five Year Plan. The response from the State Governments at that time was, however, not encouraging.

It is felt that till wagon supply position improves, the proposal for setting up coal dumps may not be practicable.

On an assurance from the Ministry of Railways regarding increase in the supply of wagons from this year, the State Government have, once again, been approached to implement the scheme. Their comments are awaited.

Exploration in Minerals

1651. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be

pleased to state :

(a) Whether minerals exploration in the country is being carried out at a slow pace;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to intensify exploration throughout the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). The pace with which mineral exploration is being carried out in the country is not slow. But its present speed can be increased to meet the growing requirements of the expanding economy.

The entire work of mineral exploration from Geological mapping to the proving of reserves is at present being carried out by Geological Survey of India, a Subordinate Government Department. Government feel that if the portion of work relating to exploration in detail and proving of reserves is transferred to an autonomous company in the public sector, it will bring in speed and efficiency in the exploration activity. It has, therefore, been decided to set up a Mineral Exploration Corporation in the public sector which will be charged with the duty of exploring minerals in detail and proving of reserves, in the shortest possible time.

Implementation of Coal Wage Board Award

1652. SHRI M KATHAMUTHU : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal industry has failed to implement fully the Coal Wages Board Award ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure full implementation of the Award by the coal industry ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes. A number of Collieries have not implemented fully the recommendations of the Wage Board

(b) Efforts continue to be made to secure the full implementation of the Wage Board's recommendations.

Registered Unemployed

1653. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-GRAHI :
SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the persons on the live register of the Employment Exchanges throughout the country as on the 31st July, 1972 Category-wise and State-wise, viz., Post-Graduates, Graduates, Matriculates and Skilled and Unskilled workers ;

(b) how these figures compare with the last three years ; and

(c) the steps taken to solve the problem of unemployment ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The total number of persons on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges at the end of June, 1972 was 56,87,978. The latest available information by educational level, however, relates to December 1971 which is given in the statement, laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3345/72]

(c) In addition to the large number of employment opportunities generated as a result of implementation of various development programmes included in the Fourth Five Year Plan, increasing number of job opportunities are expected to be created by the Special Employment Oriented Schemes and Programmes taken up since the year 1970-71 including programmes for the benefit of educated persons initiated during the year 1971-72.

In the Union Budget for 1972-73 an aggregate provision of Rs. 125 crores has been made for the Special Welfare Schemes such as Primary Education ; Slum Improvements ; Rural Home-Sites ; Rural Water Supply etc. This amount includes a sum of Rs. 60 crores for Special Employment Programmes which would be for the continuation of the various employment programmes taken up in 1971-72 and for organising new programmes both in rural and urban areas.

Expansion of Rourkela Steel Plant

1654 SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the question of expansion of Rourkela Steel Plant has been finalised by now ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the time by which it will be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c) The matter is under consideration.

Asian Summit of External Affairs Ministers

1655 SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA :
SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Asian Summit of External Affairs Ministers is going to be held in the near future ; if so, the venue of the Summit ;

(b) the nature of the subjects to be discussed at the summit together with the proposal to be put forth by India for maintaining peace in the world ; and

(c) whether the point of 'Peace in Indian Ocean' will be discussed at the meeting ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No such proposal or move has come to the notice of Government.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Sponge Iron Pilot Plant at Jamshedpur

1656. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :
SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Un-

staried Question No 377 on the 16th March, 1972 regarding setting up of a Sponge Iron Pilot Plant at Jamshedpur and state :

(a) the purpose for setting up the said plant ; and

(c) the cost of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The main purpose of setting up the Pilot Plant is to establish the suitability of raw materials and broad technical parameters for production of sponge iron based on the use of non-coking coal

(b) present estimates are placed at about Rs. 50 lakhs

एक अमेरिकन को भारत में आने की अनुमति देने से इन्कार करना

1657 श्री भूलचन्द डागा क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 10 जुलाई, 1972 के 'डी हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स' में प्रकाशित प्रोफेसर रिचार्ड आर० रेनट के पत्र की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां तो क्या सरकार ने अमेरिका के शिक्षाशास्त्रियों को भारत में आने की अनुमति देने में इन्कार किया है, और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं, और उन पत्र के प्रति सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) और (ग). भारत में विदेश के शैक्षणिक कार्यक्रमों एवं शिक्षा-संस्थानों से सम्बद्ध सरकार की सभी नीति समीक्षाधीन रहती है। सरकार ने कुछ प्रशासनिक कार्यों से किसी भी देश को प्रति वर्ष जितने शैक्षणिक यात्रा कार्यक्रम की अनुमति दी जाती है उनकी संख्या

सीमित करने का निर्णय लिया है। जिन कार्यक्रमों को 1972 में शामिल नहीं किया गया है, उन पर आने वाले वर्षों में प्राथमिकता के आधार पर महानुभूतिपूर्वक विचार किया जायगा।

तम्बुओं के बांसों (टेन्ट पोल) की खरीद

1658. श्री मूलचन्द डागा क्या पूर्ति मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या वर्ष 1968 में तम्बुओं के बाँस (टेन्ट पोल) खरीदे गए थे। यदि हाँ, तो किन-किन फर्मों से तथा किन-किन शर्तों पर और क्या उन शर्तों की एक प्रति सभा-पटल पर रखी जायेगी;

(ख) इन फर्मों ने कब माल सप्लाई किया तथा किम प्रकार का और किम मूल्य पर;

(ग) क्या स्टॉक की पहली किस्त ढाई महीने के बाद देखी गई, और

(घ) क्या जिन फर्मों ने माल समय पर सप्लाई नहीं किया उनमें ही भारी मात्रा में माल अधिक मूल्यों पर खरीदा गया?

पूर्ति मन्त्री (श्री डी. आर. चव्हाण)

(क) और (ख). पूर्ति और निपटान महानिदेशालय द्वारा 1968 में तम्बुओं के बाँसों (टेन्ट पोल) की खरीद के लिए जो ठेके दिए गए थे, उसका एक विवरण जिसमें फर्मों के नाम, संबंधित शर्तों, दरे, मात्राएँ तथा परिदान आदि के बारे में ब्यौरे दिए गए हैं। सभा पटल पर रखा है। [संघालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या LT—3346/72] ये सभी ठेके डी० जी० एस० एण्ड डी० फार्म संख्या 68 (परिपोषित) में निहित शर्तों के अधीन शामिल होने हैं, जिसकी एक प्रति संसद पुस्तकालय में उपलब्ध है। जहाँ तक विशेष शर्तों, जैसे कि परिदान का स्थान, निरीक्षण-प्राधिकारी तथा वास्तविक परिदान-अनुसूची आदि का संबंध है, इन्हें माँगकर्ता की माग की शर्तों के अनुरूप ही निश्चित करना पड़ता है, और इसलिए

प्रत्येक ठेके में ये शर्तें अलग-अलग होती हैं।

(ग) ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि माननीय सदस्य निरीक्षण के लिए प्रस्तुत पहली किस्त के निरीक्षण में हुए विलम्ब के बारे में जानकारी चाहते हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में स्थिति यह है कि जहाँ तक पूर्ति और निपटान महानिदेशालय की जात है ऐसी किसी भी फर्म से, जिन्हें तम्बुओं के बाँसों (टेन्ट पोल) की सप्लाई के लिए 1968 में ठेके दिए गए थे, ऐसी कोई शिकायत नहीं, कि उन्होंने निरीक्षण के लिए जो पहली किस्त प्रस्तुत की थी, उसके निरीक्षण में 2½ महीने का विलम्ब हुआ।

(घ) 1968 में तम्बुओं के बाँसों की सप्लाई के लिए दिए गए 26 ठेकों में से 8 ठेकों में, परिदान की अवधि में ही सप्लाई पूरी कर ली गई थी, जबकि अन्य ठेकों में परिदान की निर्धारित अवधि में या तो सप्लाई बिल्कुल नहीं की गई थी, या आंशिक सप्लाई की गई थी। कुछ ठेकों को चूककर्ता ठेकेदारों की जोखिम और खर्च पर रद्द करना पड़ा, तथा उनके स्थान पर जोखिम खरीद का प्रबंध किया गया। इस बारे में कि क्या तम्बुओं के बाँसों की बड़ी मात्रा में और ऊँची दरो पर उन्हीं फर्मों से खरीदा गया था, जिन्होंने समय पर माल की सप्लाई नहीं की थी, जानकारी एकत्रित की जा रही है, और उसे सभा-पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा।

Appointment of Chairman of the Holding Company for Steel

1659. SHRI S N. MISRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri M. A. Wadud Khan, at present Managing Director, Tata Oil Mills Company, has been appointed Chairman of the Holding Company for Steel?

(b) whether he will also be Secretary to the Government; and

(c) if so, the considerations which have weighed with Government in appointing him to both these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). Shri M.A. Wadud Khan has been selected for appointment as Secretary to Government and Chairman-Designate of the Holding Company for steel production and associated input industries. It is proposed to appoint him Chairman of the Company as soon as it is formed. This decision has been taken to ensure, on the one hand, that the Holding Company is not just another link in the chain of decision-making but is able to carry out its duties and functions in the most efficient manner possible with the minimum necessary amount of regulation and guidance from the Ministry and Government and, on the other that the Holding Company fully conforms to the socio economic policies of the Government and implements them diligently and efficiently.

Exploration work by Geological Survey of India in Andhra Pradesh

1660. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) how the exploration work by the Geological Survey of India in Mailaram, Venkatavurma in Khammam Ramasundaram in Ongola district and other areas in Andhra Pradesh has progressed ;

(b) the preliminary results of the survey ; and

(c) how long it will take to complete the survey ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) In Mailaram ; Ramasundaram ; Garimanipenta and Gazzalakonda, drilling has been completed. Exploratory mining in Mailaram is in progress. In Venkatapuram, 971 metres, in Ganikalva 3133 metres, and in Zangam-rajupalle 1473 metres of drilling has been carried out till May, 1972. Drilling in all these prospects is in progress.

(b) As a result of surveys so far conducted, about 0.814 million tonnes of copper ore with 1.35 per cent copper has been estimated in Mailaram. About 250 metre strike length of

copper mineralisation in Venkatapuram and Ganikalva, and 400 metre strike length of lead, zinc, copper mineralisation in Zangam-rajupalle has been delineated. A zone of 2.34 metre thick copper lead zinc mineralisation has been intersected in Venkatapuram where drilling is in progress. Results of exploration in Venkatapuram, Garimanipenta and Gazzalakonda are discouraging.

(c) The present programme in hand at these prospects is expected to be completed by 1973.

Mining of Copper in Andhra Pradesh

1661. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scheme for mining 500 tonnes of copper per day from the copper mines at Nallakonda, Andhra Pradesh has been finalised ;

(a) if so, the main features thereof ; and

(c) the time by which the actual mining work is expected to begin ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a). No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present detailed exploratory mining and prospecting has been taken up in order to prepare the Detailed Project Report. It is too early, therefore, to give any indication about the time by which the actual mining work will begin.

Regulation of Border Travel Between India and Bangladesh

1662. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a bid to check border crime travel between India and Bangladesh is being regulated by passport and visa system from 1st September, 1972 ;

(b) if so, whether this is being done in consultation with the Government of Bangladesh ; and

(c) if so, what are the restrictions ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) to (c). The Governments of India and Bangladesh have agreed to introduce a passport and visa system to regulate travel between the two countries. With effect from the 1st September, 1972, nationals of the one country visiting the other will require to be in possession of passports, specially designed for this purpose, duly affixed with visas. They may also travel on international passports, endorsed for Bangladesh or India, as the case may be, after obtaining visas.

2. Travel on passports is a normal international practice and its introduction for travel between India and Bangladesh is not designed only to check border crime but to govern travel generally. Apart from introducing the system of passports for travel between India and Bangladesh, no special restrictions have been introduced

Indo-Bangladesh Treaties and Agreements

1663. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the texts of the various Indo-Bangladesh treaties and agreements signed since the liberation of Bangladesh ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : The following Treaties and Agreements entered into with Bangladesh are laid on the Table of the House :

- (1) Tele-Communications Agreement of the 27th March, 1972.
- (2) Trade Agreement of the 28th March, 1972.
- (3) Indo-Bangladesh Credit Agreements of the 16th May, 1972. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-3347/72.*]

2. The text of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Peace, which was signed on the 19th March, 1972, was laid on the Table of the House on the 20th March, 1972.

National Minimum Wage

1664. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had stated that National Minimum Wage should be there to govern the wage structure for various jobs and professions in the country ; and

(b) if so, the salient feature of this proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation made this statement at Poona on 7th July, 1972. While doing so, he expressed the opinion that the nature of the profession or a category of workers should be the basis for determining the wage structure for them. He also said that another question in the fixation of the wage structure of various categories of workers was the rationalization of wages throughout the country for comparable employments.

Passing of Strictures against Indian Mission in L.K.

1665. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a British Magistrate had recently passed strictures on our Indian Mission in United Kingdom for issuing a new passport to an Indian, who allegedly had violated the British Immigration laws ;

(b) if so, the nature thereof ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) to (c). Government have seen some press reports in this regard in the last few months, concerning two separate cases. From a copy of the recorded judgement in one of the cases, which has just become available, it would appear that the press reports are not based on the judgement actually recorded by the British Magistrate concerned. However, the matter is still under examination in all its aspects.

Minimum Salary for Factory Workers

1666. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to fix minimum salary for the workers in a factory; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the time by which it will materialise ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). Minimum Wages under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, have already been fixed by the 'appropriate Governments' for the employments included in the Schedule to the Act, whether in factory establishments or others.

श्रम संस्थानों में हड़ताल और तालाबन्दी

1667. श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय : क्या श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत पांच महीनों में देश के सार्वजनिक तथा गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्रों के विभिन्न उपक्रमों, औद्योगिक फर्मों, कारखानों, मिलों आदि के हड़ताल तथा तालाबन्दी की कुल कितनी घटनाएं हुई ;

(ख) इसके परिणामस्वरूप कुल कितने जन-दिवस नष्ट हुए ; और

(ग) श्रम संस्थानों में हड़ताल और तालाबन्दी की घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का प्रस्ताव है ?

श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : (क) और (ख). उपलब्ध अन्तिम सूचना के अनुसार जनवरी से मई, 1972 के दौरान हुई हड़तालों और तालाबंदियों की संख्या और इन हड़तालों और तालाबंदियों के परिणामस्वरूप हानि हुए श्रम दिनों की संख्या

इस प्रकार थी :—

हड़तालों और तालाबंदियों की संख्या .. 952

हानि हुए श्रम दिनों की संख्या ... 3,545,405

(ग) मुख्य प्रयास यह है कि वर्तमान सांविधिक तंत्र और स्वैच्छिक व्यवस्थाओं के अंतर्गत जैसा आवश्यक हो, प्राथमिक विचार-विमर्श, अनौपचारिक मध्यस्थता, संराधन और न्याय-निर्णयन या विवाचन के माध्यम से कामरोधों को कम से कम किया जाए। सरकार संबंधित पक्षों से जिनमें कर्मचारों और नियोजकों के संगठन शामिल हैं, भी विचार-विमर्श करती रही है ताकि औद्योगिक सम्पर्क प्रणाली में सुधार लाने हेतु सम्मत उपाय तैयार किए जा सकें।

Self-Sufficiency in Steel Production

1668. SHRI K. MALLANNA : SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is far behind to achieve self-sufficiency in the matter of steel production, if so, the reasons thereof ;

(b) whether Japan and India started the production of steel at the same time yet Japan with no raw-material of its own has far left behind India in the production of steel ; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to make an assessment in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) It is expected that near self-sufficiency in steel production can be reached in two or three years with the commissioning of Bokaro Steel Plant and the existing steel plants attaining production at 90 per cent of the capacity.

(b) During the last two decades, steel capacity increased in India six fold as com-

pared to more than a ten fold rise in Japan. The economic growth in Japan (including production of steel has been much higher than not only of India, but of most other countries. This has to be viewed in the general background that not only in respect of steel production but even a very wide area of industrial activity, such as ship-buildings, machine building, electronics, etc. Japan has made rapid strides by technological development, automation and operational skills and discipline

(c) No, Sir.

Accidents in Mines

1669. SHRI K. MALLANNA :
SHRI R. S. PANDEY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of accidents in coal and non-coal mines have increased ;

(b) if so, the number of accidents which occurred during this year 1969-70, 1970-71 and 1971-72 ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to strengthen the Department of Director-General of Mines Safety to reduce the number of accidents and the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The number of fatal and serious accidents from 1967 onwards is given below :—

Year	Fatal Accidents		Serious Accidents	
	Coal	Non Coal	Coal	Non-Coal
1969	211	78	1650	861
1970	194	58	1577	786
1971	199	65	1451	789
1972	103	32	699	376
(Upto June)				

From the above it will be seen that the number of serious accidents in coal mines has gradually come down from 1969 and

there have been marginal fluctuations in the case of fatal accidents both in Coal and Non Coal mines and serious accidents in non-coal mines.

(c) Such proposal is under consideration.

Nationalisation of Iron and Steel Industry

1670. SHRI K. MALLANNA :
SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO :

Will the MINISTER ON STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to nationalise the Iron and Steel Industry in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : No, Sir.

Discovery of Silica-sand in Allahabad

1671. SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state ,

(a) whether Government are aware that one of the finest grade of silica-sand is found in Shankargarh area of Allahabad district ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken for the better utilisation of this silica-sand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Glass sand deposits near Shankargarh, Lehgarh and Bar-garh in Banda-Allahabad districts are considered among the best sources of glass sands in India. Requirements of most of glass industries in Northern India are drawn from this area.

(b) The detailed surveys and tests of the Silica sand bearing areas in Shankargarh and areas adjacent thereto are being conducted by the Directorate of Mining and Geology of U.P. and there is a proposal to reserve some areas of high grade sand so that industries based thereon could be established in Public Sector. There is also a proposal with the Government of U.P. to conduct investigations and technical studies of the sand available in this area under the United Nations Development programme currently in operation in U.P.

Assistance for Exploitation of Minister in U.P.

1672. SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that large tracts of rich minerals have been found in Banda, Bundelkhand, Mirzapur areas of Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the assistance proposed to be extended to the U P. Government for the exploitation of these minerals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) As a result of geological surveys carried out by the Geological Survey of India, deposits of bauxite, dolomite, clay and glass sand in Banda district ; dolomite, limestone, coal, iron ore, fire-clay and marble in Mirzapur district ; and diaspore, pyrophyllite, iron ore and glass sand in Jhansi district in Bundelkhand, U P., have been located so far.

(b) Clay and glass sands in Banda district; limestone, coal, fire clay and marble in Mirzapur district and diaspore and pyrophyllite in Jhansi district are already under exploitation. A scheme for the development and exploitation of Smgrauli coal deposits in Mirzapur district of U. P. by National Coal Development Corporation is under consideration of the Government of India.

Exploitation of Copper and Zinc Deposits in Andhra Pradesh

1673. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the investigations to find out the estimated potential and the possibility of commercial exploration of the Copper and Zinc deposits at Zangamarjupalle in Cuddapah District of Andhra Pradesh have since been completed ; and

(b) if so, the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES

(SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). Detailed investigation by drilling is in progress by the Geological Survey of India in Zangamarjupalle lead zinc copper mineralisation in Cuddapah district of Andhra Pradesh. A total of 1473 metres drilling has been carried out. Investigation so far carried out has indicated 400 metres long zinc copper mineralisation with thickness varying from 2.45 to 8.5 metres. Reserves and grades will be computed after completion of investigation.

Transfer of Inspectors in E. P. F. O.

1674. SHRI R. P. YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 402 on the 16th March, 1972 regarding transfer of Inspectors in Employees Provident Fund Organisation state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected , and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to prescribe some norms in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under :

(a) Yes. The number of Inspectors Grade-I and Grade-II who are continuing in the same Regions for the last 8/9 years is 9 and 54 respectively. The number of Inspectors who are continuing in the same cities for the last 8/9 years is only 8. Although they have been staying at the same station, the jurisdiction of these Inspectors has been changed from time to time.

(b) Ordinarily Inspectors are transferred from one to another after a period of three years. Inter-regional transfers and transfers before 3 years are resorted to, as a rule, on administrative considerations. Where, however, the transfer of an Inspector from a city after a period of three years is not considered administratively expedient, the jurisdiction of the Inspector is changed after the said period.

Visit by R.P. F. C. Bihar to Bihar State Road Transport Corporation and Bihar State Electricity Board

1675 SHRI R. P. YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Regional Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner, Employees Provident Fund, Bihar visited chronic defaulters at Patna like Bihar State Road Transport Corporation, and Bihar State Electricity Board ;

(b) if so, the number of times and dates on which the two establishments have been inspected by Regional Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner during last three years, if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the reasons why the Central Provident Fund Commissioner does not direct all the Regional Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners in all the regions to visit Public Sector Undertakings for ensuring proper implementation of the Employees Provident Fund Act, 1952 instead of trying to get things done through their subordinate only ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected by the Provident Fund Authorities. It will be laid on the table of the Sabha in due course.

(c) The Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under :

Establishments covered under the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 or the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme framed thereunder are inspected by Regional/Assistant Commissioners wherever necessary in the interest of smooth administration and enforcement of the provisions of the Act. No distinction is being made between Public and Private Sector establishments in this regard. No specific instructions are considered necessary.

Ratio of Clerks in Bihar E. P. F. O.

1676. SHRI R. P. YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether in terms of the revised ratio of the posts of Lower Division Clerks and Upper Division Clerks from 2 : 1 to 1 : 2 the total posts of Upper Division Clerks should be 69 in the region of Bihar under the Employees Provident Fund Organisation instead of 44, which have been sanctioned by the Central Provident Fund Commissioner and the total posts of Upper Division Clerks should be 69 out of the total strength of 103, and

(b) if so, the steps being contemplated to rectify the irregularity by reversing the ratio ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b) This is a matter of administrative detail concerning an autonomous organisation on which the Government have no information.

Allotment of Land And Houses to Ex-Servicemen

1678. SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH ;
SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to issue orders to the Regional Settlement Commissioner regarding allotment of land and houses to the ex-Servicemen, and

(b) if so, by when the orders will be issued ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration of this Department.

मध्य प्रदेश में उद्योगों को इस्पात का वितरण

1679. श्री बनसाह प्रधान
श्री गंगा खरण दीक्षित :

क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री मध्य प्रदेश में उद्योगों को इस्पात के वितरण के बारे में 13 अप्रैल, 1972 के अतारकित प्रश्न संख्या 2769 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अपेक्षित सूचना इस बीच एकत्र कर ली गई है; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसे एकत्र करने में कितना समय लगेगा ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) और (ख). पूरी जानकारी प्राप्त की जा रही है और जैसे ही यह प्राप्त हो जाएगी मन्त्रालय पर रख दी जाएगी।

Production by Indian Iron and Steel Company

1681. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN .
SHRI K. MALLANNA :

Will the MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the rated capacity of the Plant of Indian Iron and Steel Company ;

(b) the production of various categories of steel in the said plant during the last three years ; and

(c) the step taken to step up production in the said plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : a) 1 million tonnes of ingot steel corresponding to 800,000 tonnes of saleable steel per year ;

(b) the production of various categories of steel during the last three years has been as under :—

Category	Production (Tonnes)		
	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
1. Blooms and Billets	103,000	60,000	39,000
2. Rails	66,000	60,000	56,000
3. Bars	176,000	155,000	182,000
4. Structural	117,000	120,000	118,000
5. Sheets	106,000	114,000	105,000
Total :	568,000	509,000	500,000

(c) The Management of the Company has been taken over by the Government of India with effect from 14th July, 1972 with a view to arresting deterioration in production which was primarily the result of :

(a) ineffective management ;

(b) lack of attention to replacement, repair and maintenance programmes ;

(c) inadequate modernisation of plant and equipment.

After the take over, a number of steps have been taken to increase production, These include :—

(a) repair of coke ovens on priority basis ;

(b) procurement of material handling equipments .

(c) repair and replacement of cranes and other equipments in the Steel Melting Shop ;

(d) making available Coal Tar and Coke from outside.

A plan is being drawn up for the implementation of a rehabilitation programme on a high priority

Reduction of Staff in India Purchase Mission, Washington

1682 SHRI C. JANARDHANAN : Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether following the stoppage of food imports from America, there had been any cut in the staff in India Purchase Mission at Washington ;

(b) if so, the number of staff reduced ; and

(c) the total saving made as a result of this step ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) Yes.

(b) There is a common Cell in the India Supply Mission, Washington, dealing with food

and fertilizers. Total reduction of staff in this Cell since the middle of 1970 is 15 persons.

(c) Rs. 6,45,000 00 approximately.

पंजाबी बाग, नई दिल्ली के निकट कर्म-
चारी राज्य बीमा के कर्मचारियों के
लिए 'शापिंग सेटर'

1633. श्री ईश्वर चौधरी . क्या भ्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा के अस्पताल के कर्मचारियों के लिए पंजाबी बाग, नई दिल्ली के निकट जो गिरायणी क्वार्टर बनाए गए हैं, वे क्वार्टर पिछले वर्ष ही अलट कर दिए गए थे;

(ख) क्या 'शापिंग सेन्टर' के अभाव में इन लोगों को प्रतिदिन प्रयोग में आने वाली वस्तुएँ खरीदने में भारी अशुविधा का सामना करना पड़ता है, और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इसका निर्माण कब तक हो जायेगा ?

भ्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा विभाग ने निम्नलिखित सूचना भेजी है :—

(क) कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम के कर्म-
चारियों को पिछले वर्ष 289 क्वार्टर दिए गये
और इस वर्ष 53 क्वार्टर दिए गए हैं।

(ख) और (ग). बसाई दारापुर गांव में,
जो कि कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा अस्पताल के रिहा-
यशी इलाके के निकट है कई एक दुकानें हैं, जहाँ
से कर्मचारी बिना अधिक अशुविधा के दैनिक
प्रयोग की चीजें खरीदते रहे हैं, बाजार निर्माण
का प्रश्न विचाराधीन नहीं है।

बेरोजगार शिक्षित महिलाएँ

1684. श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : क्या भ्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय देश में कितनी ऐसी शिक्षित

महिलाएँ हैं जो नौकरी की इच्छुक हैं; और

(ख) उन्हें नौकरी देने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है और इसके फलस्वरूप कितनी महिलाओं को नौकरी मिल पाई है और सरकार का विचार भविष्य में इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही करने का है ?

भ्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : (क). यथार्थ जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है। उपलब्ध जानकारी काम चाहने वाली उन शिक्षित महिलाओं (मैट्रिक और इससे अधिक शिक्षा प्राप्त) के बारे में है जो रोजगार कार्यालयों में पंजीकृत हैं। इनमें से सभी आवश्यक रूप से बेरोजगार नहीं हैं। 31-12-1971 को इनकी संख्या 3,28,380 थी।

(ख) चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजना में सम्मिलित विभिन्न विकास कार्यक्रमों की कार्यान्विति के फल-
स्वरूप सृजित रोजगार अवसरों के अतिरिक्त वर्ष 1970-71 में कार्यान्वित की जा रही विशेष रोज-
गारोन्मुख परियोजनाओं और कार्यक्रमों द्वारा अधिकाधिक संख्या में रोजगार अवसर (शिक्षित पुरुषों एवं महिलाओं दोनों के लिए) सृजित होने की आशा है।

इन उपायों से जिन महिलाओं को रोजगार प्राप्त होगा उनकी संख्या सम्बन्धी यथार्थ आंकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं हैं।

**लघु इस्पात संयंत्र स्थापित करने के लिए
राज्यों को लाइसेंस देने का आधार**

1685. श्री एम० एस० पुरती : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राज्यों को लघु इस्पात संयंत्रों को स्थापित करने के लिए लाइसेंस देने का आधार क्या है; और

(ख) सरकार द्वारा इन नये संयंत्रों के सम्बन्ध में वर्ष 1972-73 के लिए इस्पात का कितना उत्पादन लक्ष्य आँका गया है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) : (क). विद्युत भट्टियों में इस्पात पिण्ड/बिलेट बनाने हेतु स्केप पर आधारित एक्को की स्थापना के लिए औद्योगिक लाइसेंस लेने के बारे में राज्य औद्योगिक विकास निगमों या निजी उद्यमियों से प्राप्त आवेदन पत्रों पर विचार किया जाता है जिसमें स्केप की उपलब्धि तथा अन्य संगत बातों जैसे तकनीकी-आर्थिक शक्तता आदि का ध्यान रखा जाता है। राज्य औद्योगिक विकास निगमों से अभी तक प्राप्त सभी आवेदनों पर अनुकूल विचार किया गया है।

(ख) ऐसा कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित नहीं किया गया है।

राष्ट्रीयकृत कोकिंग कोयला खानों में गैर-बिहारियों की नियुक्ति

1686. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कोकिंग कोयला खानों के राष्ट्रीयकरण के बाद से बिहार में बिहारियों की उपेक्षा की जा रही है और बड़े पदों पर गैर-बिहारियों की नियुक्ति किया जा रहा है,

(ख) क्या बिहार सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में केन्द्र सरकार को कोई ज्ञापन भेजा है; और

(ग) कोकिंग कोयला खानों के राष्ट्रीयकरण के बाद 1,500 रुपये से अधिक वेतन वाले कितने लोगों की नियुक्तियाँ की गई हैं तथा उनमें बिहारियों और गैर-बिहारियों की पृथक्-पृथक् संख्या कितनी है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) : (क) और (ख). जी, हाँ।

(ग) कोकिंग कोयला खानों के प्रबन्ध ग्रहण के पश्चात् कम्पनी द्वारा 1,500 रु० से अधिक वेतन वाले पद पर केवल एक ही व्यक्ति की नियुक्ति की गई है और नियुक्ति किया गया

व्यक्ति बिहारी है। परन्तु ग्रहीत की गई कोयला खानों के 54 अधिकारी और सरकार तथा अन्य संगठनों से प्रनिनियुक्ति पर 11 अधिकारीगण भी 1,500/- रु० अथवा उससे अधिक वेतन प्राप्त कर रहे हैं। भारत कोकिंग बोर्ड के चार क्रियाशील निदेशकों में से दो बिहारी और दो गैर-बिहारी हैं। 1,500/- रु० से अधिक वेतन पाने वाले कुल 70 अधिकारियों में से 16 अधिकारी बिहारी और अन्य अधिकारीगण गैर-बिहारी हैं।

विदेशों के साथ होने वाली संधियों में प्रयुक्त भाषाएँ

1687. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विदेशों के साथ जो संधियाँ होनी हैं उनकी भाषा कीन सी होगी ?

(ख) क्या सरकारी निर्णय के अनुसार सभी संधियाँ हिन्दी में भी की जाती हैं, और

(ग) शिमला शिखर सम्मेलन में संधि-पत्र किन-किन भाषाओं में तैयार किए गए थे और दोनों देशों के प्रतिनिधियों ने किन-किन भाषाओं में हस्ताक्षर किए।

विदेश मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री सुरेश पाल सिंह) : (क) संधियों पर प्रायः अंग्रेजी, हिन्दी और दूसरे पक्ष की भाषा में हस्ताक्षर किए जाते हैं।

(ख) संधि हिन्दी में भी सम्पन्न की जाती है बशर्ते दूसरा पक्ष अंग्रेजी भाषा में पाठ तैयार करने के प्रतिरिक्त उग पर अपनी भाषा में हस्ताक्षर करना चाहता है।

(ग) शिमला सम्मेलन में संधि अंग्रेजी में ही तैयार किया गया था। भारत की प्रधान मंत्री ने इस पर हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में हस्ताक्षर किए थे और राष्ट्रपति भुट्टो ने सिर्फ अंग्रेजी में ही हस्ताक्षर किए।

बंगला देश से आए शरणार्थियों के लिए
बनाए गए आवास गृहों पर व्यय

1688. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि बंगला देश से आये शरणार्थियों के लिए विभिन्न स्थानों पर बनाए गए अस्थायी आवास-गृहों पर सरकार ने कुल कितनी धनराशि खर्च की है ?

श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : विभिन्न स्थानों पर बनाए गए अस्थायी आवास-गृहों पर अनुमानतः कुल लगभग 32.50 करोड़ रुपये खर्च हुए हैं।

राष्ट्रीयकरण के पश्चात् कोकिंग कोयला
खानों में हड़ताल

1689. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कोकिंग कोयला खानों का राष्ट्रीयकरण किए जाने के समय बिहार में कोयला खान कर्मचारियों की कुल संख्या कितनी थी;

(ख) क्या कोकिंग कोयला खानों के राष्ट्रीयकरण के पश्चात् बिहार में कर्मचारियों की संख्या में वृद्धि हुई है ;

(ग) क्या राष्ट्रीयकरण के पश्चात् राष्ट्रीय-कृत कोयला खानों में कर्मचारियों ने अपनी मांगों के समर्थन में कोई हड़ताल की है; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो उनकी मांगें क्या हैं और इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : (क) 2,05,404;

(ख) 2,114;

(ग) जी हाँ।

(घ) एक विवरण जिसमें उन श्रमिकों की मांगों, जिन्होंने कोकिंग कोयला खान (संकट-कालीन व्यवस्था) अध्यादेश, 1971 के अन्तर्गत

सरकार द्वारा ली गई कोयला खानों में कार्य करना बंद कर दिया और उन मांगों पर की गई कार्यवाही दी गई है, सभा पटल पर रखा है। [ग्रंथालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या LT—3348/72]

Collective Security for Asia

1690. SHRI HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India have propounded a policy of "Collective Security" for Asia ; and

(b) if so, what concrete steps Government propose to take to give practical shape to that policy ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Indians in Sri Lanka

1691. SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sri Lanka Government has ordered acceleration of repatriation of people of the Indian origin settled in the Island under the 1964 agreement and to raise the number of repatriates to 50,000 annually ;

(b) if so, whether India has taken adequate steps to meet the situation which the above decision will devolve on India ; and

(c) the progress so far made in granting citizenship rights to people of Indian origin residing in Sri Lanka ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. This matter is the subject of discussions between the Government of India and the Government of Sri Lanka.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Till 30th June, 1972, India granted citizenship to 1,29,915 persons along with their natural increase of 20,657, under the 1964 agreement. During the same period Sri Lanka granted citizenship to 31,277 persons together with their natural increase of 5,720.

Appointment as Ambassadors of Young Career Diplomats

1692 SHRI N K SANGHI
SHRI B V NAIK

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether in filling up the posts of Ambassadors the young career diplomats do not get adequate representation,

(b) if so, the number of career and non career diplomats presently serving as India's Ambassadors and High Commissioners and their respective age groups

(c) whether Government have considered the desirability of increasing the number of career diplomats and also to see that the youth is adequately represented in this service, and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAI SINGH) (a) Comparatively young career diplomats are also appointed as Ambassadors or High Commissioners. However, no career diplomat is appointed to such a post until he has completed about 13 years of Service. A certain degree of experience and maturity is considered necessary for a Head of Mission.

(b) The information is as below

Age group	No. of career Heads of Missions	No. of non career Head of missions
(i) Below 35 years	Nil	Nil
(ii) 35 to 40 years	1	Nil
(iii) 41 to 45 years	8	Nil
(iv) 46 to 50 years	6	1
(v) 51 to 55 years	21	5
(vi) 56 to 60 years	17	8
(vii) Above 60 years	Nil	6

(c) and (d) The objective is to choose suitable persons for these posts, whether they are career diplomats or not and whatever their age. Government have no proposal under consideration aimed as such at increasing the number of career diplomats or younger diplomats holding such posts.

Ban on Entry of African Indian into India

1693 SHRI PILOO MODY Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government of India received any communication from the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants from London to refuse admission to a group of East African Indians holding British Passports,

(b) the reasons given in the memorandum for seeking ban on entry of these African Indians, and

(c) the reaction of the Government of India in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAI SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Joint Council stated that these persons did not wish to enter India.

(c) Under regulations in force, international carriers may not bring into India any foreigner against his wishes. On evidence that the British Passport Holders did not wish to come to India, they were sent back by the same carrier.

Report of Central Wage Board for Port and Dock Workers

1694 SHRI PILOO MODY Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Central Wage Board for Port and Dock Workers has submitted its report, and

(b) if so, the salient features of recommendations made in regard to the service conditions of Port and Dock Workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The Wage Board's final report was submitted to the Government on the 29th November, 1969 and copies of Government's Resolution thereon No. WB-21(7)/69 dated the 28th March, 1970, which also gives a summary of the Board's recommendations were laid on the table of the Lok Sabha on the 30th March, 1970

Research Schemes for Welfare of Workers

1695 SHRI T. S. LAKSHMANAN : Will the the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the salient features of Research Schemes initiated during the last few years for the purpose of strengthening the factual base for planning for the welfare of workers ,

(b) the time since when they are being worked out , and

(c) when they are likely to be concluded ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR) : (a) to c) The required information is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House, in respect of some of the important Research Schemes for Welfare of workers, viz —

- i. Survey of Labour Conditions.
- ii. Contract Labour Surveys
- iii. Family Living Surveys among Industrial Workers.
 - (a) At 50 Centres (32 Factory Centres, 8 Mining Centres and 10 Plantation Centres)
 - (b) Working Class Family Income and Expenditure Survey at 60 Centres).
- iv. Occupational Wage Survey.
- v. Agricultural/Rural Labour Enquiry.
- vi. Intensive Type Studies of Rural Labour,

vii. *Ad hoc Studies*

- (a) Rapid Survey on Indebtedness among workers in the Iron and Steel Industry
- (b) Survey of Housing Conditions of workers in Coal Mines.
- (c) Rapid Survey of Working and Living Conditions in the Circus Industry in India.
- (d) Family Budget Enquiry of Railway Porters and Vendors.
- (e) Enquiry as to how workers support themselves during the period of Lay-off and temporary unemployment arising from Strikes, Closures and retrenchment and collection of data regarding indebtedness
- (f) Housing Survey in Mica Mines.

viii. *Schemes under Formulation*

- (a) Survey of workers employed in the Unorganised Sector of Industries.
- (b) Study of Living and Working Conditions of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes including Sweepers and Scavengers, Flayers and Tanners, etc , in Urban areas [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—3349/72.*]

Survey to strengthen Information base regarding Employment and Manpower

1696 SHRI T. S. LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether surveys for strengthening the information base relating to employment and manpower have been undertaken ; and

(b) if so, the main feature of such surveys ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) :

KAR) : (a) The following surveys have recently been initiated/undertaken by the Directorate General of Employment and Training in the field of Employment and Manpower :

- (i) Area Skill Surveys ;
- (ii) Industry and Occupational Outlook Surveys ;
- (iii) Survey of the Employment Pattern of Graduates ;
- (iv) Survey to ascertain the proportion of Employed Persons on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges.

These apart, the National Sample Survey is also undertaking a comprehensive labour force survey, in their 27th round.

(b) The main features of the above survey are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Main features of the surveys undertaken by the Directorate General of Employment and Training.

(i) *Area Skill Surveys :*

These surveys are expected to provide an indication regarding the likely demand for and supply of various types of manpower, scope for self-employment, etc. at district level. The requisite information will be collected from employers, training institutions, village officials etc. In the first instance, these surveys have been taken up in 3 districts, viz. Bangalore, Ludhiana and Gorhkapur. It has recently been decided to extend the scope of these surveys to 12 other areas.

(ii) *Industry and Occupation Outlook Surveys :*

The Industry surveys are intended to study the manpower situation in industries which are of vital importance from the point of view of employment creation. It is intended to obtain information on the future requirements of various types of manpower, current manpower shortages, emerging and decaying occupations, etc. in selected industries.

In the Occupational Outlook studies it is intended to gather information about future

employment outlook in respect of selected occupations. These studies are expected to provide data which will be useful for work-seekers, educational and vocational guidance authorities, etc.

(iii) *Survey of the Employment Pattern of Graduates :*

With a view to studying the employment pattern and the extent of unemployment among different types of graduates, a survey has been initiated in respect of graduates and post-graduates who passed from various Universities in 1968. In addition, diploma-holders in Engineering are also proposed to be covered. While all Post-Graduates and Ist Class Graduates will be covered on a census basis, the remaining graduates will be covered on a sample basis. The field work is expected to start shortly.

(iv) *Survey to ascertain the proportion of Employed Persons on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges :*

One of the main limitations of the Employment Exchange statistics, as an indicator of unemployment is that some of the persons registered with the Employment Exchanges are already employed and are looking for better jobs. A sample survey of Employment Exchange registrants has accordingly been taken up with a view to obtaining information on their correct employment status. A sample of about 80,000 registrants from all the Employment Exchanges in the country will be contacted by personal interview method to obtain the necessary information. The field work is expected to start in the near future.

(v) *Labour Force Survey by the N.S.S. :*

A comprehensive labour force survey covering both rural and urban areas of the country is going to be undertaken in the 27th round of the N.S.S. (October, 1972-Sept, 1973). The Survey is expected to furnish estimates of unemployment and under-employment at the national and State level.

Adjudication of Disputes in 1971

1697. SHRI T. S. LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of disputes adjudicated upon out of 58 referred for adjudication during 1971 ;

(b) the number of disputes that have been arbitrated upon out of 12 disputes referred for arbitration during 1971 ; and

(c) the names of industrial establishments in case of which 120 'failure of conciliation' reports were received during 1971 ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) out of 56 disputes referred for adjudication during 1971, awards have been given in 24 cases.

(b) Nine

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—3350/72*].

Cases of Failure of Conciliation Proceedings

1698. **SHRI T. S. LAKSHMANAN :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the action taken by Government on receiving information that out of 1055 cases where conciliation proceedings were held, 509 cases ended in failure ; and

(b) how many of these 509 cases related to Government and Public Sector Undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Out of the 509 cases, 333 have been referred for adjudication. In 161 cases adjudication has been declined and 15 cases are pending.

(b) Ninety five cases related to the public sector.

Communication from Prime Minister of Sri Lanka regarding Keeping Indian Ocean free from Big Powers' Rivalry

1699. **SHRI SAMAR GUIIA :**
SHRI P. GANGADEB :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a communication from Sri Lanka Prime

Minister regarding her talk with the Chinese Government spokesmen in Peking in relation to the move for keeping Indian ocean free from big powers' rivalry ; and

(b) if so, the nature of such communication received from the Sri Lanka Government source and the reaction of the Indian Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Holding of Mining Trade Convention by Federation of Indian Mineral Industries

1700. **SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries are holding Mining Trade Convention to assess the problem faced by the Mining Industry and to suggest a scientific approach to the exploitation of mineral resources ;

(b) whether the President of Federation has stated that recent State laws and some policy decisions of the Union Government had created uncertainty in the mining industry ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). The Federation of Indian Mineral Industries had intimated the Government some time ago about their proposal to hold a Mining Trade Convention. The views of the Government on this proposal have not yet been intimated to them.

N.A.P.B. on Arbitration

1701. **SHRI V. MAYAVAN :**
DR. H. P. SHARMA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Arbitration Promotion Board had agreed that arbitration as

a means of resolving industrial disputes should be accepted as the step next to the failure of negotiations and conciliation efforts ;

(b) if so, the other decisions taken at its fifth meeting ; and

(c) whether they have suggested to bear arbitration costs ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The other important decisions of the Board were (i) preparation of an aide-memoire of guidelines for arbitrators, (ii) training of a cadre of qualified arbitrators, and (iii) fixation of fees of arbitrators etc. The Board also released a panel of 324 arbitrators of utilisation of their services by the parties. Details of the above decisions have been included in the proceedings of the deliberations of the Board, copies of which have been supplied to the Parliament's Library.

(c) Yes, Sir. Both the employers and workers representatives requested the Government to bear the arbitration costs so that parties could be encouraged to take greater recourse to voluntary arbitration. The representatives of the State Governments on the Board, however, found it difficult to support this proposal unless the matter had been thoroughly examined by the State Governments in all its aspects. It was then decided that the matter would be examined in detail by the Central Government and a paper on the subject placed before the Board.

Export of Iron Ore

1702. SHRI B. S. BHAURA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether plans for creating additional capacity for exporting 25 million tonnes of iron ore by 1973-74 have been finalised ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. According to the assessment made in the

Fourth Plan Mid-Term Appraisal, the export of iron ore by 1973-74 would be 25 million tonnes.

(b) The exports would be principally from the major ports of Haldia Paradeep, Visakhapatnam, Madras and Marmugao.

Import of Steel for Bokaro Steel Plant

1703. SHRI P. S. BHAURA :
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to import immediately, 20,000 tonnes of steel section from Japan and refractories from Russia and Poland as a measure to speed up the work at Bokaro ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the value of the proposed import ; and

(c) the other measures taken to speed up the work at Bokaro ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). There has been no such recent decision. Government had permitted in the past the import of about 13,000 tonnes of structural steel from Japan at a cost of approximately Rs. 15 crores. This import was allowed in view of the limited indigenous availability. Like-wise import of about 43,700 tonnes of refractories at a cost of approximately Rs. 5 crores from USSR and Poland has been permitted in the past. Import of these refractories were allowed because they were either not being manufactured in the country or indigenous suppliers on whom orders have been placed by Bokaro Steel Ltd, had seriously defaulted in supplies, endangering the completion of the Project.

(c) An elaborate and competent organisation is already functioning at Bokaro for keeping a close watch on the progress of supplies from indigenous sources as also by imports. Assistance is provided at Government level for speedy procurement of materials wherever necessary. A system of network analysis and project control for effective

co-ordination of various activities has been implemented. A regular system of co-ordination meetings with the Bokaro Steel Ltd. and important suppliers of equipment is also being followed by the Ministry. The proceedings of the meetings and the progress of supplies to Bokaro Steel Ltd are also being reviewed in the Ministry for lending such assistance as may be required from time to time.

Extraction of Titanium Metal from Ores

1704. B. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the large resources of titanium metal available in the country, Government still depends upon the import of titanium metal ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the difficulties being faced to set up plants to extract titanium metal from the ores ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). There is at present no indigenous production of titanium metal and the entire requirements are met by imports which are not large. An industrial unit has recently been given a letter of intent for manufacture of titanium metal sponge along with various other items.

Setting up of Pig Iron Plant in Andhra Pradesh

1705. SHRI B. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested Government for setting up a Pig Iron Plant at Khammam ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). If the

reference is to the proposal sent by the Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation to set up a Demonstration Plant at Khammam for the production of 30,000 tonnes of Sponge Iron per annum, the proposal is under consideration.

Unemployment and Under-employment Among Females

1706. SHRI B. V. NAIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of unemployment and under-employment among the able-bodied female population of India in the working age group ; and

(b) the measure Government propose to take to provide gainful employment to this section of society ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a). Precise information is not available. However, according to 21st Round of the N.S.S. (July 1966 to June, 1967) 0.20% of the female population in urban areas was reported to be unemployed. The latest available information in respect of unemployment among female population in rural areas relates to the 17th Round of the N.S.S. (September 1961 to July 1962) according to which 1.89% of the female population in rural areas was unemployed. Similar information regarding under-employment is not available.

(b) In addition to the employment opportunities generated as a result of implementation of various Development Programmes included in the Fourth Five Year Plan, increasing number of job opportunities (for the unemployed both male and female) are expected to be created by the special employment oriented schemes and programmes taken up since the year 1970-71.

Unemployment Insurance Scheme

1707. SHRI K. BALADHANDAYUTHAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 6607 on the 18th May, 1972 and state :

(a) whether the question of introducing Unemployment Insurance Scheme has since been considered by Government ; and

(b) if so ; the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a). No.

(b) Does not arise.

Scrappings sold out by Bhilai Steel Plant

1708. SHRI K. BALADHANDAYUTHAM : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5774 on the 11th May, 1972 regarding scrappings sold out by Bhilai Steel Plant and state :

(a) whether the investigation into the discovery of 200 tonnes of Ferro-Manganese and Ferro-Silicon from the godown of M/s. Steel Trading Company of Kursipur, near Bhilai town has since been completed ;

(b) if so, the findings thereof ; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No. Sir. The police investigations are still in progress.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Misuse of Provident Fund

1709. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have seen the Press reports in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 20th May, 1972 where in it has been stated that Provident Fund is being misused by employers in the country ;

(b) if so, the number of such defaulters who have come to the notice of the Government ; and

(c) whether any action has been taken by Government against them, if so, the nature thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a). No such report appears to have been published.

(b) and (c). The Provident Fund Authorities have, however, reported that as on the 31st March, 1972 there were 8046 establishments which were in arrears of provident fund dues. The following steps are generally taken against the un-exempted establishments which default in payment of provident fund dues and/or submission of returns :

- (i) Prosecution is launched under Section 14 of the Employers' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952.
- (ii) Revenue recovery proceedings are initiated under section 8 of the Employers' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952.
- (iii) In suitable cases, complaints are filed with Police/Courts under Section 406/409 of the Indian Penal Code.
- (iv) The default is brought to the notice of the Employers' and Workers' Organisations including the Trade Unions.
- (v) Penal damages are levied under Section 14-B of the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952.
- (vi) In some cases the establishments are afforded a chance to pay the dues in suitable instalments subject to production of adequate guarantee, surety etc.
- (vii) In the case of Mills which have gone into liquidation, reconstruction Schemes are examined on merits.

Refugees from West Pakistan After Simla Agreement

1710. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO ; SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of refugees have come to India from West Pakistan after the Simla Agreements ;

(b) if so, the number of refugees who have migrated to India ; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to rehabilitate them ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the information made available by the State Governments, about 41,000 refugees have migrated to India after the Simla Agreement.

(c) The question of rehabilitation of the refugees in India does not arise.

Maintaining of own Aircraft by Foreign Embassies in India

1711. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since taken any final decision relating to the grant of permission to foreign missions to maintain their own aircraft for internal flights either for the Head of Missions or for their staff ; and

(b) if so, the nature of decision taken ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). The foreign missions in India who had been maintaining aircraft for their own use have already been informed of the Government of India's decision to withdraw this facility.

Shifting of Department of G.S.I. from Calcutta

1712. SHRI JAGADISH BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether several Department of the Geological Survey of India in Calcutta are being shifted from there ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal to shift any department of Geological Survey of India from Calcutta as such. The Government have, however, been considering the question of reorganising the G.S.I. for sometime past so as to make it more efficient in the discharge of its functions. The Committee on Organisation of Scientific Research (COSR) examined the activities, functions and organisational structure of CSI and made certain recommendations in this regard. These recommendations which subsequently considered by Committee on Science and Technology became the basis for the Government decision to merge the Ground Water Wing of GSI with the Central Ground Water Board of the Ministry of Agriculture and to set up a Mineral Exploration Corporation in the public sector to undertake exploring in detail and proving the mineral resources of the country in the shortest possible time. The merger of Ground water Wing of GSI with Central Ground water Board has come into force with effect from 1st August, 1972. The Mineral Exploration Corporation which will be located at Nagpur is expected to be set up shortly.

Bauxite investigation at Nileshwar by Geological Survey of India

1713. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to close down the Bauxite Investigation at Nileshwar in Kerala undertaken by the Geological Survey of India ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether the entire analysis data of the samples taken from the area has been made available to the State Government ; and if not, the reasons thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir. Bauxite Investigation at Nileshwar in Kerala is in progress.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As the investigations are still in progress, the question of supply of data to the State Government does not arise at present.

Cases of Default in Depositing E.P.F. Registered

1714. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of cases registered against Provident Fund defaulters in 1971-72 and during the first half of 1972-73 and its State-wise break up and the total amount involved ; and

(b) the action taken against the defaulters and the steps taken to recover the amount ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under :—

(a) The number of prosecutions instituted with the total amount involved against employers of un-exempted defaulting establishments during 1971-72 region-wise is given below :

S. No.	Name of region	No. of prosecution cases instituted during 1971-72	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	168	1.03
2.	Assam	149	0.62
3.	Bihar	83	2.55
4.	Delhi	225	8.15
5.	Gujarat	210	5.48
6.	Kerala	50	6.07
7.	Madhya Pradesh	343	1.76
8.	Maharashtra	491	15.42
9.	Mysore	169	4.11
10.	Orissa	18	1.41
11.	Punjab	342	1.07
12.	Rajasthan	49	0.87
13.	Tamil Nadu	449	24.76
14.	Uttar Pradesh	59	0.55
15.	West Bengal	1599	46.39
Total :		4404	120.24

Information for the first half of 72-73 which is not yet over is not available.

(b) The following steps are generally taken against the un-exempted establishments which default in the payment of dues and/or submission of returns :

- (i) Prosecution is launched under Section 14 of the E.P.F. and F.P. Fund Act, 1952.
- (ii) Revenue recovery proceedings are initiated under Section 8 of the E.P.F. and F.P. Fund Act, 52.
- (iii) In suitable cases, complaints are filed with the Police/Courts under Section 406/-09 of the Indian Penal Code.
- (iv) The defaults are brought to the notice of the Employers' and Workers' Organisations including the Trade Unions.
- (v) Penal damages are levied under Section 14-B of the E.P.F. and F.P. Fund Act, 1952.
- (vi) In some cases, the establishments are afforded a chance to pay the dues in suitable instalments subject to production of adequate guarantee, surety etc.
- (vii) In the case of Mills which have gone into liquidation, reconstruction schemes, are examined on merits.

Tour of External Affairs Minister of African and European Countries

1715. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :
SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had undertaken a tour recently of certain African and European countries ;

(b) if so, the nature of talks with the leaders of these countries ; and

(c) how far these discussions have helped to develop closer economic and political relationship with these countries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The visit provided an opportunity of intimate valuable exchanges of views with the Heads of States, Vice Presidents and Foreign Ministers of these countries. The discussions covered a wide-range of subjects of international importance, developments in our sub-continent, the African scene and issues of bilateral relations with India ;

(c) The discussions revealed that a great fund of good-will for India exists in these countries, based not only upon India's historic traditions and, more recently, her role in decolonization but also upon the goals and policies pursued by the Government of India. India's initiative for peace and the spirit and results of the Simla agreements were evaluated as positive developments. India's progress in industrial and economic development has roused keen interest in these countries, themselves engaged in harnessing and developing their abundant wealth of natural and human resources. A number of suggestions for co-operation and collaboration in the economic and technological fields figured in the discussions, and will be pursued in concrete form through diplomatic channels, and detailed discussions between technical delegations. Significant scope appears to exist particularly in the development of mineral resources, agro-industries, joint ventures, and technical training.

Merger of E.P.F.O. and F.S.I.

1716. **SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to merge the Employees Provident Fund Organisation with Employees State Insurance Corporation ;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal ; and

(c) the steps taken to safeguard the

interests of the employees of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation which came into the existence much later than the Employees' State Insurance Corporation.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). In order to come to a decision on the recommendation of the National Commission on Labour to evolve an Integrated Scheme of Social Security, a Working Group was set up in December, 1969, which suggested integration of all Social Security Schemes as an ultimate objective. A Special Officer was appointed to examine the legal, administrative and organisational matters connected with the integration of Social Security Scheme in a comprehensive manner and to prepare a blue-print of integration. His report has since been received and it has been decided to place it before the next session of the Indian Labour Conference. The matter will be examined further in the light of views of the Indian Labour Conference.

Indians Working in Foreign Countries and Foreigners Working in India

1717. **SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of Indians working outside under different United Nations sponsored schemes and the total number of foreigners working in India under these schemes ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when full information has been received.

Exchange of Economic Delegations for Promoting Relations with Asian Countries

1718. **SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Economic Delegations which Government sent to countries of Asia with a view to developing further intimate relations with them during the last two years ; and

(b) the particulars regarding the foreign delegations received by Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). Since the subject matter covered by the question is very vast, material for answer to the question is being collected.

Stabilisation of price of Steel

1719. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF :
SHRI D. K. PANDA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the measure Government propose to take to stabilise the price of steel ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : The prices of different categories of steel are fixed by the Joint Plant Committee from time to time. These prices are applicable to supplies from the Main Producers. The prices of the categories produced by the Billet Re-rollers from the billets supplied to them by the main Producers are further regulated by the Billet Re-rollers Committee.

2. Thus, about 95% of the total production of steel in the country is supplied direct to the actual consumers at regulated prices as indicated above. This is a major factor in keeping prices stable. Only a very small percentage—about 3 to 5%—of the production is supplied to traders for free sale.

3. In order to prevent leakage from some of the so called actual consumers to the open market, the Iron and Steel (Control) Order has been suitably amended to provide that the use of steel for any purpose other than that for which it is applied for or allotted will be a violation of the Order and thus punishable under the Essential Commodities Act. Six Regional Offices of the Iron and Steel Controller have been set up in different parts of the country and one of their functions is to check mis-use of steel.

Dispute between Workers and Management of Khetri Copper Project

1720. SHRI VEKARIA :
SHRI B.K. DASCHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has declined to intervene

in the dispute between the workers and the Management of the Khetri Copper Project ; and

(b) if so the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Visit of Foreign Secretary to Nepal

1721. SHRI VEKARIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foreign Secretary, Shri T. N. Kaul, visited Nepal recently ; and

(b) if so, the discussions held regarding expanding areas of co-operation between Nepal and India for strengthening cordial ties between the two countries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Foreign Secretary paid a visit to Nepal from July 17th to July 18th, 1972.

(b) Discussions were held on matters of bilateral interest including political and economic questions as well as on matters affecting this region as a whole, so as to increase mutual understanding and co-operation between the two countries.

Production in Public Sector Steel Plants

1722. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the month wise break-up of total production of steel in the three Public Sector Undertakings, viz., Bhilai Steel Plant, Durgapur Steel Plant and Rourkela Steel Plant during the last three months, separately ; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to achieve the target of production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI

SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) . (a) The production of steel at Bhilai, Durgapur and Rourkela steel Plants during the months of April to June, 1972 was as under :

Plant		Ingot Steel	(in 100 tonnes) Saleable Steel
Bhilai	April, 1972	168.3	125 2
	May, 1972	153 0	135 0
	June, 1972	145 0	130 9
	Total	466 3	391 1
Durgapur	April, 1972	63.6	34 1
	May, 1972	54 8	42 9
	June, 1972	49 5	25 4
	Total	167 9	102 4
Rourkela	April, 1972	74 0	42 4
	May, 1972	80 3	44.7
	June, 1972	85.5	46 3
	Total	239 8	133 4

(b) Within the limitations imposed by the industrial relations situation, particularly at Durgapur Steel Plants, the management of Hindustan Steel Limited are taking all possible steps to achieve the targets of production. These include specialised repairs of Coke Ovens, use of alternative fuels to supplement gas availability, oil firing in certain furnaces to augment fuel resources improved maintenance aimed at better equipment availability, speeding up of capital programmes required to correct existing imbalances in production facilities and planned procurement of spares, refractories and other essential materials. Recently, a three tier Joint Consultative Machinery has been set up at Durgapur for speedy settlement of industrial disputes and grievances and to enlist the cooperation of the workers in maximising production. A new rewards scheme has been introduced in the Rourkela Steel Plant to provide additional incentive for increasing production progressively. The Government also keep constant watch on the performance of the units and the Company through periodical Task Force meetings and reviews and render all the assistance that is required.

खेतडी ताबा परियोजना के कर्मचारियों द्वारा हड़ताल

1723 श्री राधावतार शास्त्री :
श्री राम सहाय पांडे

क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या राजस्थान में खेतडी ताबा परियोजना के कर्मचारियों ने 11 जुलाई से अनिश्चित काल तक के लिए हड़ताल की है,

(ख) यदि हा, तो हड़ताल के क्या कारण हैं, और

(ग) सरकार ने उनकी कठिनाइयों को दूर करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की है अथवा करने का विचार है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) जी, हाँ।

(ख) तांबा मजदूर संगठन ने, जो कि खेतड़ी ताम्र प्रायोजना में हाल ही में अमान्यता प्राप्त संघ पंजीकृत हुआ, हिन्दुस्तान ताम्र लि० को 9 जून, 1972 को हड़ताल के लिए नोटिस दिया। नोटिस में कतिपय यह आरोप लगाए गए थे कि प्रबन्ध की भावना उनके संगठन के पदाधिकारियों के प्रति द्वेषपूर्ण और प्रतिसोघात्मक रही और यह भी आरोप लगाया था कि उनके महासचिव श्री आर० एन० एल० श्रीवास्तव और सचिव श्री बी० एल० भट को अवैधानिक रूप से निलम्बित किया गया था। नोटिस में यह भी कहा गया था कि उनके कोलिहान शाखा के सचिव श्री बाई० के० गौड़ की सेवाई दिसम्बर, 1971 में पर्यवसित की गई थी। नोटिस में यह मांग की गई कि पदाधिकारियों के अभिकथित अवैधानिक निलम्बन और पर्यवसान आदेश प्रतिसहृत किए जाएं और यह भी कहा कि इसको देखते हुए संघ 11 जुलाई, 1972 से हड़ताल के आह्वान को प्रस्तावित करता है।

(ग) सर्वश्री श्रीवास्तव, भट और गौड़ के मामले न्यायनिर्णयन के लिए औद्योगिक अधिकरण, जयपुर को निर्देशित किए गए हैं।

Denial of Leave to Employees in R. P. F. C. Office, Punjab

1724. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees of the office of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Punjab are being denied leave even on medical grounds ;

(b) whether this action of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner has created a sense of resentment amongst the staff members ; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to look into the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The Provident Fund authorities have reported as under :

(a) No general complaints about denial of leave on medical grounds by the regional Commissioner have been received.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Federation of Employees in R. P. F. O.

1725. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are two Federations of the Employees in the Employees Provident Fund Organisation ; and

(b) if so, the number of units affiliated with each of the Federations ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The Provident Fund authorities have reported as under :

(a) There is no recognized federation of employees in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation. However, there are two unrecognized federations of the employees styling themselves as the All India Employees' Provident Fund Staff Federation and the Progressive Provident Fund Employees Federation of India.

(b) In view of the unrecognized character of the federations, the information with regard to the constituent units affiliated to each is not known.

Development and Conservation of Coal Resources by Private Collieries

1726. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the private collieries in the country have failed to make additional investments in the collieries with a view to develop and conserve the coal resources in a scientific manner ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take over these collieries to ensure their proper development ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES

(SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). While there has been no reports of holding back of investment, there has been a slackening in the tempo of development work. Government is keeping a careful watch. However Government is not considering, at present, the question of taking over of the non coking coal mines.

Construction of Steel Plant in Bangladesh

1727. SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to construct a Steel Plant in Bangladesh in the near future ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production in Bhilai Steel plant due to shortage of Power Supply

1728. SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether production has declined in Bhilai Steel Plant due to the shortage of power supply ; and

(b) if so, the extent thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Survey of Vacancies Reserved for S. C. & S.T. in Central Government

1729. SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India have completed the survey of Vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Central Government ; and

(b) if so, the final result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The Survey has been completed and the drafting of the Report is in its final stage.

Industrial Relations in Public Undertakings

1730. SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether industrial relations and labour situation in the Public Undertakings remained disturbed badly during the last financial year ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. Industrial relations were comparatively better as compared to the two previous financial years.

Phased Programme for Production of Steel

1731. SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) where Government are working on a phased programme to increase production of steel upto 20 million tonnes by the end of 1982 ;

(b) if so, the main features of the programme being worked in this regard ; and

(c) the steps being taken to implement this programme in different steel plants to increase production of steel plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Government have in hand a phased programme for increasing production of steel to about 20 million ingot tonnes by the end of 1982.

(b) and (c). It is proposed to secure optimum production from the existing capacity of 8.9 million ingot tonnes in the 5 integrated steel plants by raising the level of opera-

tional efficiency, better maintenance and improved labour relations. Balancing facilities, to overcome bottlenecks in production, are also being provided. In addition to the above capacity, it is proposed to expand Bhilai Steel Plant from 2.5 to about 4.0 million ingot tonnes, Bokaro to 4.0 million ingot tonne stage and set up two new integrated steel plants at Vijayanagar (Mysore) and Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) each of two million ingot tonne capacity. This would increase the capacity to about 18.4 million tonnes by 1978-79 or a year later. The capacity of the Indian Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. is also proposed to be increased. During the Sixth Plan, it would be necessary to plan for additional capacity at the rate of about 2 million ingot tonnes every year, by further expansion of capacity in existing steel plants/creating capacities at greenfield sites and the installed capacity by 1982 is expected to be over 20 million ingot tonnes. Some additional capacity will also be available from electric furnaces.

Detailed studies are in hand for phased implementation of the programme.

Violent Incidents in Simpson Plant in Madras

1732. SHRI RAMKANWAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been violent incidents in the Simpson Plants in Madras ; if so, the reasons thereof ;

(b) whether some workers were also killed during the scuffle between various groups ; and

(c) whether the Government of India have received any report in this regard from the State Government ; if so, the main points thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). There have been reports of violent incidents in the Simpson plant in Madras, but the matter falls within the State sphere.

(c) No.

Racial Discrimination in U. K.

1733. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report in the Calcutta Statesman of the 26th June, 1972 stating that there have been persistent incidents of racial discrimination in United Kingdom against coloured people including Indians migrated to United Kingdom ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government of India to stop it ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have not received any recent complaints of discrimination from Indian residents in U. K. All such complaints are promptly taken up with the authorities concerned. The cases of discrimination referred to in the 'Statesman' report of 26th June, 1972, are of a kind the redress for which is usually sought by the individuals themselves through organisations like the Race Relations Board, Community Relations Commission etc.

Tripartite Meeting in Delhi on Coal Industry of West Bengal

1734. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a tripartite meeting on coal industry of West Bengal was held recently in Delhi ; and

(b) if so, the results of that meeting ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes.

(b) In this meeting it was agreed that the Union Labour Minister would consider the arrangements to be made for the expeditious payment of other dues to the workers. The employers also agreed that timely and

prompt payment of wages and other dues to workers would be made in future.

Headquarters of U.N. Committee of Human Environment

1735. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have proposed to the United Nations to set up the headquarters of the Central Organisation of the United Nations on Human Environment in India ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the United Nations in this matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Government of India have put forward their request for the Secretariat of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment to be located in New Delhi.

(b) Requests from other countries are still coming in and the United Nations has not yet made its reactions known.

Visit of Study Team to Bangladesh for Development of Steel Industry

1736. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have sent a Study Team to Bangladesh to study the possibility of developing steel industry there ; and

(b) if so, the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir. However, a Hindustan Steel Limited team visited Bangladesh to arrange the supply of iron and steel materials urgently required by the Government of Bangladesh.

(b) Does not arise.

Representation from Federation of Indian Mineral Industries Re: Increase in Royalty Rates, Freight Rates and Port Charges

1737. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries requesting against any future increase in the royalty rates, railway freight and the port charges ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ; and

(c) whether there have been difficulties in the movement of minerals resulting in dislocation in the supply of raw materials to the consumer industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of a Mini Steel Plant in Tamil Nadu

1739. SHRI B K DASCHOWDHURY : SHRI M. M. JOSEPH

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a mini steel plant has been decided to be set up in Tamil Nadu in the near future ; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up and start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). Apart from the Continuous Casting Plant already set up by the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation at Arkonam with an initial capacity of 50,000 tonnes of Steel Billets per annum, which started functioning in April 1972, there is no proposal at present under

consideration to set up another such unit in Tamil Nadu.

Setting up of Scrap Corporation under Ministry of Steel and Mines

1740. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a Scrap Corporation under his Ministry instead of the Foreign Trade ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Government have decided to transfer the administrative control of the Metal Scrap Trading Corporation Limited, in existence since 1964 under the administrative control of Ministry of Foreign Trade, to the Ministry of Steel and Mines, Department of Steel.

(b) The main features of the re-organisation of the Corporation are as follows :

(i) The present share holding of Rs. 2 lakhs of the Minerals and Metals Trade Corporation in the Metal Scrap Trading Corporation will be transferred to the President of India ;

(ii) The activities of the Corporation will be enlarged, particularly with a view to the further development and maximisation of Scrap collection

Registered Trade Unions in Railways

1741. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of trade unions comprising of Railway works alone registered under Indian Trade Union Act, 1926 ;

(b) the total membership of All India Railwaymen's Federation in 1960, 1965 and 1970 and when it renewed its registration last ; and

(c) the total membership of National

Federation of Indian Railwaymen for the years 1960, 1965 and 1970 and when it renewed its registration last ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) According to available information, 175 trade unions have been registered under the Trade Unions Act, 1926 upto December, 1970.

(b) and (c). The membership of the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen as verified was 35,467 on 1.3.1960 and 1,98,941 on 31.12.1968. No verification was made for the years 1965 and 1970. No such verification was made regarding the membership of the All India Railwaymen's Federation as it is not affiliated to any of the four central organisations of workers. Information is being collected regarding the registration of the two Federations.

Negotiations on Vietnam Issue

1742. SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether U. K. Government have requested the Government of India to use its influence to bring about substantive negotiations on Vietnam issue following blockading of North Vietnam's Ports by the USA ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The British Government had suggested that India could also help in bringing about a Geneva-type conference on Vietnam by suitably advising the Soviet Union.

(b) The Government of India feel that fighting must first stop in Vietnam before any proposal for settlement by peaceful means stands any chance of being acceptable.

सोमबाबू कोशे से बिस्वावित्त परिवारों
का पुनः बसाया जाना

1743. श्री जगदीश चंदर : क्या कम और पुनर्वासित नसी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गत भारत-पाकिस्तान युद्ध के दौरान सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों से हटाए गये कुछ परिवारों को अभी तक नहीं बसाया गया है; और

(ख) इस मामले में क्या उपाय किए जाने का विचार है ?

श्री अरुण जोग (श्री अरुण जोग) : (क) और (ख). इस सम्बन्ध में गुजरात सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि परिवारों को वहाँ से नहीं हटाया नहीं गया था।

राजस्थान सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि उन परिवारों को जिन्हें सीमावर्ती गांवों से हटाया गया था, उन्हें के गांवों में बसा दिया गया है। राज्य सरकार ने फमलों को हुई हानि के लिए प्रभावित व्यक्तियों को बाहमौर जिले में मुआवजे का भुगतान कर दिया है। गंगानगर जिले में इस प्रकार का भुगतान जारी है।

पंजाब सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों से 4,30,340 व्यक्ति विस्थापित हुए थे; जिनमें से 3,57,687 व्यक्ति अपने गांवों को वापस चले गए हैं। शेष 72,653 व्यक्तियों में से अधिकतर लोग अपने सम्बन्धियों तथा मित्रों के साथ रह रहे हैं जबकि जरूरतमन्द लोगों को तम्बू दे दिए गए हैं। अनुमोदित पैमाने के अनुसार सरकार ने उन्हें, चारे, कंबल-रजाइयों और कपड़ों आदि के लिए नकद सहायता तथा अनुदान दे दिया है।

जम्मू और काश्मीर राज्य के बारे में जानकारी की प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है और जैसे ही उपलब्ध होगी, सभा की मेज पर रख दी जाएगी।

Industrial Establishments in Arrears of Employees Provident Fund

1744. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Industrial establishments in the country which are in arrears to the Employees Provident Fund Organisation ;

(b) the State-wise details and the total arrears thereof upto May, 1972 ; and

(c) the action taken against the defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under :—

(a) The Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 covers industrial as well as non-industrial establishments. Figures in respect of the total number of defaulting industrial establishments as on 31.5.1972 are not readily available. However, as on the 31st March, 1972 the total number of defaulting un-exempted establishments which were in arrears of provident fund dues stood at 8046.

(b) A region wise statement showing the amount of provident fund contributions in arrears as at the end of March, 1972 in respect of un-exempted establishments, is attached.

(c) The following steps are generally taken against the un-exempted establishments which default in payment of dues and/or submission of returns :

(i) Prosecution is launched under section 14 of the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952.

(ii) Revenue recovery proceedings are initiated under Section 8 of the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952.

(iii) In suitable cases, complaints are filed with the Police/Courts under section 406/409 of the Indian Penal Code.

(iv) The default is brought to the notice of the Employers' and Workers' Organisations including the Trade Unions.

(v) Penal damages are levied under Section 14B of the E. P. F. & F. P. Fund Act, 1952.

(vi) In some cases, the establishments are afforded a chance to pay the

dues in suitable instalments subject to production of adequate guarantee, surety etc.

- (vii) In the case of Mills which have gone into liquidation, reconstruction schemes are examined on merits.

Statement

Region	Amount in arrears (in Lakhs of Rupees)
(1)	(2)
1. Andhra Pradesh	65.24
2. Assam	20.29
3. Bihar	51.94
4. Delhi	16.77
5. Gujarat	60.60
6. Kerala	62.00
7. Madhya Pradesh	234.41
8. Maharashtra	658.51
9. Mysore	26.45
10. Orissa	19.04
11. Punjab	20.58
12. Rajasthan	49.74
13. Tamil Nadu	191.59
14. Uttar Pradesh	201.77
15. West Bengal	386.64
Total	2065.57

उस ऐतिहासिक पिंजरे की तलाश जिसमें मुगल बादशाह ने गुरु तेगबहादुर को रखा था

1745. श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा :

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने ब्रिटेन स्थित भारतीय उच्चायुक्त से यह कहा है कि वह 17वीं शताब्दी के उस ऐतिहासिक पिंजरे की तलाश करे जिसमें मुगल बादशाह औरंगजेब ने गुरु तेगबहादुर को मृत्यु दण्ड से पहले रखा था; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : (क) जी हाँ।

(ख) ब्रिटिश सरकार ने जो पूछताछ की है उससे यूनाइटेड किंगडम में इस पवित्र अवशेषों का कुछ भी अता-पता नहीं लग पाया है। उनकी इस पूछताछ के दौरान ऐसी भी कोई बात प्रकाश में नहीं आई जिससे यह पता चलता हो कि यह पवित्र अवशेष कभी ब्रिटेन से जाया गया था।

केन्द्र सरकार के मंत्रियों तथा अधिकारियों द्वारा विदेशों के दौरे

1746. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय . क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत पांच महीनों में केन्द्र सरकार के कितने मंत्रियों और अधिकारियों ने विदेशों का दौरा किया ; और

(ख) इस पर सरकार ने कुल कितनी भारतीय और विदेशी मुद्रा खर्च की ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : (क) और (ख). सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सकलित होते ही सदन की मेज पर रख दी जाएगी।

Mercury Deposits in Kozhikode District, Kerala

1748 SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN . Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has submitted a report to Government on the extent of mercury deposit near Badagara, Kozhikode District Kerala ;

(b) whether the Geological Survey of India is contemplating a Thermal Survey in the area with U N D P. assistance ; and

(c) if so, the decision of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI

SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Preliminary investigation for mercury occurrence near Badagera area, Kozhikode district, Kerala has been completed by the Geological Survey of India and the report is being prepared.

(b) and (c). The proposal for a Thermal Survey for Mercury deposits in this area is under consideration of the Government.

Setting up of a Steel Plant at Calicut

1749. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN . Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received final reports on the extent of Iron Ore deposits at Cheruppa, Eliottimala, Nanminda, Naduvannur and Peruvannamuzhi near Calicut ; if so, the extent of reserves and its quality ;

(b) whether the Geological Survey of India has extended its research for Iron Ore to other areas in the neighbourhood ; and

(c) whether Government are exploring the possibility of setting up a Steel Plant at Calicut based on these Ore deposits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The detailed investigations for iron ore in Cheruppa, Eleyettimala, Nanminda and Naduvallur area have been completed by Geological Survey of India. The reports on the Cheruppa, Eleyettimala and Nanminda iron ore deposits have been finalised but the report on Naduvallur deposit is not yet complete. Of the finalised reports, the report on Cheruppa has been received by the Government. Investigation for iron ore in Peruvannamzhi (Alampera Deposit) is in progress and is expected to continue during field season 1972-73. Reserves of about 44 million tonnes of oxidised and un-oxidised ore with total iron content varying between 31 and 40 per cent have been estimated in Cheruppa, Eleyettimala, Nanminda and Naduvallur area.

(b) Preliminary investigation for iron ore has been extended to cover the iron ore occurrences in the Karattimala area in the Malappuram district,

(c) The question of setting up a Steel Plant at Calicut can be examined only after the investigations in all the iron ore potential deposits are completed and the total reserves in the area are known.

Proposals of Agriculture Ministry regarding Import of Fertilizers

1750. SHRI MADHURAYYA HALDAR : Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Department is avoiding thorough examination of the proposals of Agriculture Ministry regarding import of complex fertilizers from the angle of foreign exchange savings ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether his Ministry support channelisation of potassic fertilizer through the private trade-dominated Indian Potash Limited ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) It is the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture to determine the programme for the import of fertilisers, i.e. the quantities and the types of fertilisers to be imported and the delivery schedules for such imports. The responsibility of the Department of Supply is restricted to the import of fertilisers in accordance with the programme drawn up by the Department of Agriculture. The question of the Department of Supply carrying out an examination of the proposals of the Department of Agriculture, therefore, does not arise.

(c) The import of potassic fertilisers is channelised through the MMTC in respect of East-European countries and the Department of Supply in respect of other sources. This fertiliser is not being imported through the Indian Potash Limited.

Annual Reports of Dandakaranya Development Authority

1751. SHRI MADHURAYYA HALDAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state whether the annual administration and progress reports of the Dandakaranya Development Authority will be placed on the Table of the House ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The progress made with the Dandakaranya development scheme being executed by the Dandakaranya Development Authority is indicated in the Chapter 'Dandakaranya Project' in the Annual Reports of the Department of Rehabilitation circulated to the Members of Parliament in the Budget Session every year.

Profits earned by Steel Plants in Public Sector

1752. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the Steel Plant in the Public Sector are expected to start making profits ; and

(b) the reasons for incurring losses by the Hindustan Steel Limited which is equipped with the latest machinery and equipments while an old machinery installed by Tatas about 50 years ago are making profits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KAHN) : (a) and (b). Profitability is a function of costs, volume of production and prices. It has been estimated by Hindustan Steel Limited that on the basis of existing prices and costs, the three integrated steel plants under the Company can earn a profit if the volume of their production exceeds 84%, 81% and 63% of the installed capacity of Bhilai, Durgapur and Rourkela Steel Plants respectively. Accordingly, the Management is concentrating its efforts towards raising production as rapidly as possible and a number of steps have been taken in this direction.

The losses sustained by the Company over the years have been due to a number of reasons including such factors as inadequate utilisation of capacity, higher incidence of capital related charges, disturbed industrial relations in some of the plants, and escalations in cost elements. The capital related charges of TISCO are very much lower and their utilisation of capacity is greater.

Increase in Price of Steel

1753. SHRI D. K. PANDA :
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have lately decided to increase prices of steel ;

(b) if so, the main features thereof ; and

(c) the reasons prompting Government to increase the prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KAHN) : (a) and (b). With effect from 22-7-1972, Government have allowed an increase in prices of the following three categories of steel, by the amounts indicated against each :

(i) Billets	Rs. 80/ per tonne
(ii) Bars and Rods and Wire Rods	Rs 85/-per tonne
(iii) Structural and Rails	Rs. 50/ per tonne

(c) The three main producers of steel, viz., Hindustan Steel Limited, Tata Iron & Steel Company Limited and Indian Iron & Steel Company Limited represented to Government in April/May 1972 for an increase in steel prices. In their representations, the main producers referred to various items of cost escalations which had not been covered by the increase in steel prices approved by Government on December 30, 1969 and also to further cost escalation factors which had taken place since then. The total effect of these escalations came to over Rs.100/- per tonne. Of this, Wages (including DA) accounted for over Rs 30 per tonne, Raw Materials over Rs 20/-, Refractorier, Rolls and Fuel Oil over Rs. 25/- and other factors such as Railway Freight, consumable stores, power etc., over Rs. 32/-. They had pointed out that in the absence of a suitable price increase, their operating results were being adversely affected.

Government carefully considered these representations and came to the conclusion

that a general price increase for steel at this stage would not be advisable. However, it was considered that a case existed for increase in the prices of a few selected categories.

भवन-निर्माण कार्य में लगे मजदूरों की मजदूरी में वृद्धि

1754. डा० संकटा प्रसाद : क्या भ्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने भवन-निर्माण कार्य में लगे मजदूरों की मजदूरी 4.50 रुपये से बढ़ाकर 5 रु० करने का निर्णय किया है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या इसे क्रियान्वित किया गया है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

भ्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : (क) से (ग). (1) गड़कों के निर्माण और उनकी देखभाल या भवन-सकियों;

(ii) पत्थर तोड़ने और पत्थर पीसने;

(iii) भवनों की देखभाल; और

(iv) अवतरण-पथों के निर्माण और उनकी देखभाल के नियोजनों में लगे कर्मचारियों के लिए न्यूनतम मजदूरी-दरों के संशोधन के लिए मसौदा प्रस्ताव भारत के असाधारण राजपत्र दिनांक 20 मई, 1972 में प्रकाशित हुए हैं जिनमें तीन महीने के अन्दर-अन्दर आपत्तियों/मुद्दाय यदि कोई हो, आमंत्रित किए गए हैं। जो टीका-टिप्पणियाँ प्राप्त होगी, उनको ध्यान में रखते हुए इस अवधि के बाद इन प्रस्तावों को अन्तिम रूप दिया जाएगा।

Investment in Public Sector Steel Plants

1756. SHRI ACHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment made by Government in running Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur steel plants upto 31st March, 1972 ;

(b) the profit and loss from these plants during the last three years respectively ; and

(c) the reasons for the loss in the Plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The total investment of Government funds in Hindustan Steel Limited of which Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur Steel Plants are 3 units, as on 31-3-1972 was Rs. 1011.07 crores—equity Rs. 594.37 crores and loans Rs. 416.70 crores.

(b) The Working results of the Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur Steel Plants for the years 1968-69 to 1970-71 were as under :

Plant	(Rs. in crores)		
	Net profit (+) / Loss (-) for the years		
	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71
Rourkela	(-) 3.97	(+) 7.83	(+) 10.20
Bhilai	(-) 11.35	(+) 3.65	(+) 11.04
Durgapur	(-) 17.37	(-) 15.50	(-) 20.40

The annual accounts for the year 1971-72 are yet to be finalised and approved by the Company but according to the present indications, all the plants have suffered a loss during this year.

(c) As will be noticed from the above statement, Rourkela and Bhilai Steel plants earned profits in 1969-70 and 1970-71. The losses incurred by these plants in 1968-69 and by the Durgapur Steel Plant during all the three years were primarily due to actual production being considerably lower than the installed capacity. The same also applies to the year 1971-72, when there was the additional factor of escalations in costs due to full impact of the Wage Agreement, higher consumption of stores and spares on account of increased maintenance requirements due to ageing of plants, increases in the prices of raw materials and stores and spares, Emergency Risk Insurance, revaluation of the DM., increase in rates of electricity duty and arrears on this

account and the collapse of the roof of the steel melting shop at Rourkela.

Import of Pig Iron for Steel Plants in Public Sector

1757. SHRI ACHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state how much pig iron has been imported for Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur Steel Plants during the last three years ending on the 31st March, 1972 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : No pig-iron was imported by Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur Steel Plants during the last three years ending on the 31st March, 1972.

Joint Economic Development between India and Bangladesh

1759. DR. H. P. SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the areas of joint economic development identified between India and Bangladesh, both in terms of joint production and exploration and exploitation of export markets in third countries ; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in that direction ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). In pursuance of the joint statement issued by the Prime Ministers of India and Bangladesh at Calcutta on 8.2.1972, steps have been taken to promote close economic cooperation between the two countries and studies have been initiated to identify possible areas of future economic collaboration. The identification of areas where it may be possible to co-ordinate efforts for the promotion of trade with third countries is being included, where appropriate, in these studies.

Survey of Ladakh Region by Geological Survey of India

1760. SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India have sent a 10-member scientific-cum-mountaineering expedition to the Kistwar-Ladakh region in Jammu and Kashmir ;

(b) whether this expedition will undertake geological survey of high altitude areas and also attempt to scale the 23,000 ft. high Nunkun peak ; and

(c) whether this team will undertake any other work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Geological Survey of India have sent a ten member expedition team consisting of seven geologists, one doctor and two signallers to Nun Kun, Ladakh Distt. in the first week of June, 1972. This expedition has been arranged to take up the geological mapping of the Nun Kun Peak and the surrounding areas. Besides the expedition party will undertake geological survey and geological, geomorphological and glaciological studies of the high altitude areas and will also attempt to scale the 7135 metres (about 23000 feet) high Nun Peak.

Reserves of Copper Ore Around Khetri Copper Project

1761. DR. H. P. SHARMA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether reserves of copper ore found around the Khetri Copper Project area will suffice to feed the plant when it goes into production for a period not exceeding 45 days ;

(b) if not, the reasons for slow progress in exploration work ; and

(c) the steps taken to explore and exploit further copper ore reserves in and around the area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

The position actually is that ore reserves so far proved in Khetri and Kolihan Mines are 57 million tonnes. It would be sufficient to feed the plant at full capacity for 20-25

years, which is the normal life of a mine. There is every likelihood of ore reserves position getting improved with further exploration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Hindustan Copper Limited who are responsible for the exploitation of copper ore deposits at Khetri and Kolihaan are also exploring these deposits further for additional ore reserves. The Company has also taken up the exploitation of Dariba Copper deposit in District Alwar, Rajasthan. In addition, the exploitation of Chandmari Copper Deposit near the Khetri Copper Project, is expected to be taken up by Hindustan Copper Ltd. shortly. Besides, the Geological Survey of India are also exploring other areas around Khetri Copper Project for finding additional copper ore deposits.

Construction of Stopes for Khetri Copper Project

1762. DR. H. P. SHARMA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether only two of the several stopes have so far been constructed at the Khetri Copper Project during the last over 11 years of implementation of the project ;

(b) how far the project is behind schedule and how far the Management and the American consultants have been responsible for this delay ;

(c) whether the cost of the project has already increased or is likely to increase by over a hundred crores of rupees ; if so, the reasons therefor, and

(d) whether a CBI inquiry or other inquiry is proposed to be caused into the affairs of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The work of stope preparation at the upper levels of Khetri Mine was taken up in 1967. By 1970, 5 shrinkage stopes and 2 sub-level stopes had been prepared. In July, 1971, a revised mining scheme was drawn up and it was decided to convert the existing shrinkage stopes into sub-level stopes and also to change

the ore drawal system to achieve higher output per stope. This involved considerable additional work at all the stopes. At present one of the 7 stopes is in production and 85% of the work in regard to the balance 6 stopes has been completed. All these stopes will be ready before the end of the current year. In addition, work of preparation of 6 more stopes had also been taken up at the Khetri Mine.

In the case of Kolihaan Mine, the work of stope preparation was taken up towards the end of 1968. In 1971 certain modifications in the stope designs were made pursuant to the revised mining scheme referred to above for ensuring higher tonnage output per stope. Two stopes at the Kolihaan Mine are ready for production and work of preparation of two other stopes is in hand.

(b) According to the earlier time schedule prepared in 1968, the project was to be completed in 1971-72. However, due to various factors, the progress of implementation of the project remained slow in the initial stages and in 1970, a revised time schedule was prepared for the project. According to this, the project is scheduled to go into production in the last quarter of 1973-74.

M/s Western Knapp Engineering Co., U.S.A. were commissioned in early 1961 to prepare a Feasibility Report on Khetri Copper Project. They submitted the report in December, 1961. Subsequently, they were retained as consultants for the process plants for the Khetri Copper Project. They have, however, no direct responsibility for the implementation of the Project.

The work at the Project was delayed mainly owing to unforeseen delays in the finalisation of design, specifications etc. of certain specialised items of equipment and plant needed for the project. The delay in the indigenous procurement of equipment, slow progress in the completion of civil construction works for the Concentrator Plant and dearth of experienced and qualified persons in the field of metalliferrous mining and metallurgy has also contributed to the delay in the completion of the Project. Training of Engineers in Copper mining and metallurgy has been accelerated but it will take some time before adequate expertise is generated in the Company. Every effort is being made to ensure that the Project is completed as per the revised time-schedule.

(c) The detailed capital cost estimates for the Project were made in 1968. According to these, the Project was estimated to cost about Rs. 93 crores. The cost of the Project has been recently re-assessed by the Hindustan Copper Limited, and the Project is now estimated to cost about Rs. 115 Crores. These revised estimates are under examination of the Government. The upward revision in the cost estimates is mainly due to the following reasons :—

- (i) It became necessary to revise the earlier mining scheme to ensure that the mine production at the stipulated rates can be achieved as per time-schedule. This necessitated additional mine openings and additional mining equipment for mechanised mining ;
- (ii) In the case of plants, the earlier estimates were based on preliminary process designs, particularly in the case of Smelter and Refinery. With the completion of the detailed designing, additional equipment not included in the earlier estimates had to be provided for in order to meet the process requirements ;
- (iii) A part of the increase is also due to general escalation in the prices of equipment material and services over the last 4 years ;
- (iv) The delay of about 2 years in the completion of the project has also resulted in additional expenditure on supervision, etc.
- (d) There is no such proposal.

Differences in Estimates of Copper Deposits in Rajasthan between G.S.I. and Ministry of Steel and Mines

1763. DR. H. P. SHARMA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are sharp differences about the estimates of availability of copper deposits in Khoh Dariba in Alwar district of Rajasthan and in the areas nearby between the Geological Survey of India and the Ministry of Steel and Mines ;

(b) if so, the assessments of the two

authorities about the existence of these deposits in the area ; and

(c) whether further explorations about the existence of copper deposits in this region and other areas in Rajasthan are proposed to be made to feed the Khetri Copper Complex ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Geological Survey of India estimated reserves of 0.56 million tonnes with 2.46% copper of average grade in the Khoh-Dariba area of Alwar District, Rajasthan.

(c) The Geological Survey of India has been engaged in carrying out exploration work for copper in the following areas of Rajasthan :

Area	Total reserves estimated so far
(1) <i>Khetri Copper Belt</i> (Madan-Kudhan, Koli- han General Block, with 1% copper. Kolihan South Block, Kohhan North Block. Akwali and Satkui)	63.3 million tonnes
(2) <i>Bhagoni, Alwar District</i>	5.22 million tonnes with 1% copper
(3) <i>Pur-Dariba, Bhilwara District</i>	2 million tonnes with 1% copper

Exploration by test drilling is also being carried out in Dhanota block, Goria block and Kakrana-Naori-Gurha-Ponk Section, Jhunjhunu District ; Dariba-Patna area, Sikar District ; Kalighati and Pratappgarh Sections, Alwar district and Achrauli area, Jaipur district.

Challenge to World Court's Jurisdiction in the Case of Ban on over flights of Pakistan Planes

1764. SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India

have invited the attention of the World Court that it has no power to decide over the complaints made by Pakistan that it should be allowed to take its flight over the Indian sky, and

(b) if so, the reaction of World Court thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) The Government of India has filed an Appeal in the World Court against the decision of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organisation rendered on 29th July, 1971 whereby it overruled India's Preliminary Objections to the jurisdiction of the Council to entertain Pakistan's Application and Complaint concerning India's banning of overflights of Pakistani aircraft over Indian territory. India's view is that the ICAO Council was not competent to entertain Pakistan's Application and Complaint

(b) The judgement of the International Court of Justice is awaited.

हिन्दुस्तान स्टील लि० द्वारा मध्य प्रदेश में लोहे और इस्पात के गोदामों की स्थापना

1765. श्री गंगा चरण बीक्षित : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या हिन्दुस्तान स्टील लिमिटेड का विचार मध्य प्रदेश में लोहे और इस्पात के गोदाम स्थापित करने का है, और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो किन-किन स्थानों पर ये गोदाम स्थापित किए जायेंगे और इन्हें कब तक स्थापित कर दिया जाएगा ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) (क) और (ख). इस समय मध्य प्रदेश में इंदौर तथा भिलाई में हिन्दुस्तान स्टील लि० की दो शाखाएँ एच स्टाक-यार्ड हैं। उस राज्य में कोई और स्टाकयार्ड खोलने का इस समय उनका कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

भिलाई इस्पात संयंत्र में इस्पात का उत्पादन

1766 श्री गंगा चरण बीक्षित : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश के भिलाई इस्पात संयंत्र में इस्पात की किन-किन किस्मों का उत्पादन किया जा रहा है,

(ख) संयंत्र द्वारा सामान्यतया किन-किन किस्मों के इस्पात का निर्यात किया जा रहा है, और

(ग) पिछले वर्ष इस्पात का निर्यात करके संयंत्र ने कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जन की ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) (क) भिलाई इस्पात कारखाना बिलेट, ब्लूम, बीम, कडिया, चैनल, राउण्ड रिब्ड टार स्टील, एगल, चप्टे उत्पाद, रेल की पटरी, शैलबार, स्क्वेयर, तार छड़, आदि का उत्पादन करता है।

(ख) सामान्यतः कारखाना विदेशी ग्राहकों की विभिन्न विशिष्टियों के अनुसार रेल की पटरी, ढांचे और छड़ निर्यात करता है।

(ग) वर्ष 1971-72 में कारखाने ने 14.35 करोड़ रुपए की विदेशी मुद्रा कमाई।

Recommendation of N.C.L. on Working Hours in Factories

1767 SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that in 1946 the reduction in working hours in big factories and textile industries was made :

(b) whether Government are ready to implement the recommendation made by the National Commission on Labour in this regard ; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADIL-

KAR) : (a) The weekly working hours of adults were originally 54 hours under the Factories Act, 1934 (60 hours for seasonal factories). These were reduced under the Factories Act, 1948 to 48 hours uniformly for all the factories.

(b) and (c). The National Commission on Labour has not proposed immediate reduction in working hours in view of the current requirements of the economy. The Commission has, however, recommended reduction of working hours to 40 to be kept as a goal to be reached in two stages. The Government have decided that the question of reduction in working hours may be considered at the appropriate time when circumstances permit such reduction. The Commission has also suggested that immediate reduction in hours of work in industries where obnoxious processes have to be looked after or where workers are exposed to fumes and gases may be called for. This matter is under examination.

Minimum Wages of Cantonment Board Employees

1768 SHRI AMARNATH VIDYALANKAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7128 on the 5th August, 1971 and state the wage scales of the Cantonment Board employees and when the same were prescribed ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : As a result of the settlement arrived at on 13.5.1969 between the Cantonment Board and their employees, the pay and allowance of Cantonment Board employees have been brought at par with corresponding categories of State Governments employees at the district level. Actual wage scales for different categories of staff, information in respect of which is not available, is therefore likely to vary from State to State.

Opposition to Rise in Minimum Bonus

1769. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Council of Indian Employers, constituted by the Employers' Federation of India, have opposed rise in minimum

bonus on the ground that it would affect industries both in the public and private sectors as well as employment creation in the country as a whole ; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The Council of Indian Employers is reported to have submitted a memorandum to the Bonus Review Committee opposing the demand for raising the minimum bonus.

(b) The matter has first to be considered by the Bonus Review Committee.

U.T.U.C. Demand of Minimum Bonus

1770. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Trade Union Congress has demanded a minimum bonus of 8-1/3 per cent of the total annual earning or Rs 150 per individual to workers in the country ;

(b) whether United Trade Union Congress has, in a memorandum submitted to the Bonus Review Committee, said that the bonus should be paid to all employed persons and that the exemption granted to different classes of establishment under the payment of Bonus Act, 1965, be withdrawn ; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The United Trade Union Congress is reported to have submitted a memorandum to the Bonus Review Committee urging increase in the minimum bonus and payment of bonus to all employed persons.

(c) The matter has first to be examined by the Bonus Review Committee.

Plans for increasing Capacity Utilization in Units of Hindustan Steel Ltd., by holding Company for Steel

1771. SHRI S. R. DAMANI :
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :

Will the minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the plans drawn out by the Holding Company for steel to increase capacity

utilization in the units of Hindustan Steel Ltd ;

(b) whether any guide-lines have been laid down to improve managerial efficiency in these units and to bring down costs of production ; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a). The Holding Company for steel and associated input industries is still to be set up. However, the Management of Hindustan Steel Limited are making, within the limitations imposed by the industrial relations situation particularly at Durgapur Steel Plant, all possible efforts to increase production. These include : specialised repairs of coke ovens, use of alternative/supplementary fuels to supplement gas availability, oil firing in certain furnaces to augment fuel resources, installation of an additional half coke oven battery at Rourkela Steel Plant and an additional full battery at Bhilai Steel Plant, improved maintenance aimed at better equipment availability, speeding up of capital programmes required to correct existing imbalances in production facilities and planned procurement of spares, refractories and other essential materials. Recently, a three-tier joint consultative machinery has been set up at Durgapur for speedy settlement of industrial disputes and grievances and to enlist the cooperation of the workers in maximising production. A new rewards scheme has been introduced in the Rourkela Steel Plant to provide an additional incentive for increasing production progressively.

(b) and (c). Improvement in managerial efficiency and control of cost of production are essentially management functions and the management of Hindustan Steel Ltd. is alive to these requirements. Managerial efficiency is sought to be improved through such measures as adequate delegation of powers to the operating units, sustained programmes of executive development, a new performance-oriented appraisal system, etc.

Control of cost of production is exercised through a system of standard costing. Moreover, increased production should help contain the cost of production.

Effect of Power Crisis in West Bengal on Employment Situation

1772. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recent acute power crisis in West Bengal has adversely affected factory employment position in West Bengal ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The matter falls in the State sphere. The information is not readily available.

Retrenchment of Workers of Calcutta Port Handling Iron Ore

1773. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI S. C. SAMANTA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7848 on 29th May, 1972 and state :

(a) whether the representations by workers' organisations against the unjustified reduction by the Minerals and Mines Trade Corporation of Iron Ore and Steel exports through Calcutta Port have since been examined ;

(b) if so, Government's decision in this regard ; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken, pending examination, to prevent the contractors concerned from retrenching over 800 ore handling workers ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). The representations against reduction in iron ore and steel exports from Calcutta Port were considered by Government. Although, on account of various factors, it has not been found feasible to step up or maintain the previous level of exports of these commodities from that Port, a workable formula has been evolved to provide employment to iron ore workers at Calcutta. Under this formula a Cooperative Society of workers has

been registered. The users of the Society will also be entitled to its membership. The Society already approached various users including the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation for providing them with work and negotiations on this point are in progress between the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation and the Society.

पाकिस्तान के राष्ट्रपति की पुत्री की भारत-यात्रा

1774. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच जून/जुलाई, 1972 में हुए शिखर सम्मेलन में भाग लेने के लिए आये हुए पाकिस्तानी शिष्टमण्डल के साथ भारत आने वाली पाकिस्तान के राष्ट्रपति की पुत्री भारत सरकार की व्यक्तिगत मेहमान थी अथवा वह पाकिस्तानी शिष्टमण्डल की एक सदस्य मात्र थी ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में जयमंती (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : कुमारी बेनजीर भुट्टो पाकिस्तानी शिष्टमण्डल की सदस्या थी ।

Persons of Indian Origin in Foreign Countries

1775. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons in foreign countries of Indian Origin living at present without citizenship of that country, particu-

larly in Sri Lanka ;

(b) what steps Government of India have taken in this regard ;

(c) whether similar problems are being faced in other countries also by the persons of Indian Origin ; and

(d) if so, the names of such countries and the reaction of Indian Government thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Persons of Indian origin are concentrated in a number of countries. A statement giving their total numbers and the numbers of those who have not acquired local citizenship is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) The Government of India have been urging on Indian settlers in foreign countries to identify themselves with the aspirations of the indigenous population and to take up local nationality. The response to the suggestion has been varied.

In the particular case of Sri Lanka, the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of 1964 provides for determining the citizenship status of the bulk of Stateless persons of Indian Origin.

(c) and (d). Difficulties faced by persons of Indian origin vary from country to country. Where necessary, efforts are made through diplomatic channels to urge on the foreign Government the need to treat the problem as a human one.

Statement

Approximate number of persons of Indian origin in the countries where there are some problems or problems are likely to arise

	Approx. Total number	Approx. number of persons who have not acquired local nationality
Kenya	1,39,000	78,000
Uganda	73,000	43,000
Tanzania	1,02,000	67,000
Malawi	11,800	11,700
Zambia	12,000	11,700
Malaysia	9,50,000	2,00,000
Sri Lanka	12,00,000*	10,28,727**
Burma	2,68,000	2,61,000
Singapore	1,30,000***	50,000
South Africa	6,00,000	Negligible@

* Provisional 1971 Ceylon Census figures.

** According to latest figures received up to 30.6.72, 1,71,273 persons have been granted Ceylon Citizenship. Under Indo-Ceylon Agreement, 1964, 3,00,000 are expected to be granted Ceylon citizenship upto 1975.

*** 80,000 of these, who have acquired Singapore nationality, include citizens of Singapore, Malaysia and the U.K.

@ Information is not readily available.

Strike by Artisans of H.E.C., Ranchi

1776. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :
SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 634 on the 3rd August, 1972 regarding strike by artisans of Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi and state the total estimated loss incurred by the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi because of strike by artisans in May ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : The net loss incurred by Heavy Engineering Corporation during April-June, 1972 has been provisionally estimated at Rs 4.97 crores. This loss is due to a number of factors including strike by the artisans during the months of May-June 1972. It has not been possible to compute the loss on account of the strike by the artisans.

**खेतड़ी तांबा परियोजना के मुख्य कार्यालय
का कलकत्ता को स्थानान्तरण**

1777. श्री ईश्वर चौधरी :

डा० हरि प्रसाद शर्मा :

क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या खेतड़ी तांबा परियोजना के मुख्य कार्यालय को राजस्थान से कलकत्ता स्थानान्तरित किए जाने का राजस्थान विधान सभा में विरोध किया गया था, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो सरकार की इस बारे में क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनावाज खान) : (क) जी हा। अद्यक्ष के कार्यालय का खेतड़ी से कलकत्ता स्थानान्तरण का राजस्थान विधान सभा में विरोध किया गया था।

(ख) हिन्दुस्तान ताम्र लिमिटेड के अधीन खेतड़ी ताम्र परियोजना और राजस्थान में दरीबा

तथा चांदमारी जैसे अन्य लघु निक्षेपों के अतिरिक्त, बिहार में राखा ताम्र प्रायोजना, आंध्र प्रदेश में अग्निगुंडला सीसा ताम्र प्रायोजना और मध्य प्रदेश के जिला बालाघाट में मालजखण्ड ताम्र निक्षेप भी है। मार्च, 1972 में सरकार ने भारतीय ताम्र निगम, घाटमिला, बिहार के उपक्रम का प्रबन्ध ग्रहण किया। इस तथ्य को, कि हिन्दुस्तान ताम्र लिमिटेड का कार्य देश के व्यापक क्षेत्र में विस्तृत हो जाएगा और मामलों के संबंधित वाणिज्यिक तथा प्रशासनिक पहलुओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए निदेशक मण्डल ने सरकार को इस बात की सिफारिश की कि कम्पनी के मुख्यालय को दिल्ली या अनुमानतः कलकत्ता स्थानान्तरित किया जाए। सरकार ने कम्पनी के मुख्यालय को कलकत्ता स्थानान्तरित किए जाने का विनिश्चय लिया चूंकि यह मध्य में स्थित है और पोतल एवं ताम्र के बेल्जियम उत्पादों के विक्रय तथा अतिरिक्त पुर्जों और खनन मशीनरी के क्रय के लिए भी यह एक वृहद् वाणिज्यिक केन्द्र है।

**Purchase of Computers by Rupee Payment
from U.S.S.R. and G.D.R.**

1778. SHRI S. A. MURUGANAN-THAM : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether computers are available for purchase by rupee payment from U.S.S.R. and G.D.R. ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for Heavy Engineering Corporation to hire business from the I.B.M. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) According to the information available with Heavy Engineering Corporation, U.S.S.R. was in a position to supply Computers from 1972 only. They have no information in respect to the availability of Computers from the German Democratic Republic.

(b) H.E.C.'s decision to hire the computer was based on the consideration that it could be replaced with the latest one at no extra cost and the problem of disposing the obso-

lete machines would not arise. Besides, I.B.M. World Trade Corporation provide a high standard of system support and maintenance services. HEC have had I.B.M. machines from 1965; therefore, hiring other computer from a different source would have necessitated reorientation of existing training facilities and methods of work.

12.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORT OF NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
LABOUR

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : On behalf of Shri R. K. Khadilkar, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Hindi version of the Report of the National Commission on labour, 1969. [*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-3333/72.]

NOTIFICATION UNDER INDUSTRIES (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION) ACT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 18 A of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 :—

- (1) S.O. 365 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th May, 1972 regarding management of the Hira Mills Limited, Ujjain.
- (2) S.O. 366 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th May, 1972 regarding management of the New Bhopal Textile Mills, Limited Bhopal.
- (3) S.O. 432(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th June, 1972 regarding management of the Model Mills Nagpur Limited, Nagpur. [*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-3334/72.]

FINANCE ACCOUNTS, 1970-71

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R.

GANESH) : On behalf of Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Finance Accounts of the Union Government for the year 1970-71. [*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-3335/72].

COAL MINES (SECOND AMENDMENT)
REGULATIONS, 1972

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Coal Mines (Second Amendment) Regulations, 1972 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 877 in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 1972, under sub-section (7) of section 59 of the Mines Act, 1952. [*Placed in Library.* See No. LT-3336/72].

12.04 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha :—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 7th August, 1972, agreed without any amendment to the Payment of Gratuity Bill, 1972, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 3rd August, 1972."

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
SIXTH REPORT

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA (Dausa) : Sir, I beg to present the Sixth Report of the Committee on Petitions.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri K. C. Pant to make a statement.

12.06 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. ATTEMPT ON THE
LIFE OF CHIEF MINISTER OF
NAGALAND

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI

K. C. PANT : Sir, On the 8th August, 1972, at about 12.30 P.M. the convoy, with which the Chief Minister of Nagaland was travelling from Dimapur to Kohima, was ambushed at a place about 5 miles from Kohima. Fortunately, the Chief Minister was not hurt. But, two police constables and a driver were killed by the miscreants. The daughter of the Chief Minister, who was travelling with him, received injuries. She is now reported to be progressing in the hospital and is out of danger. The miscreants made good their escape after the incident.

I am sure that the House will join me in expressing our shock and anguish at this gruesome incident. The State Government has been taking energetic and vigorous steps to put down illegal activities and maintain peace and order. Vigorous efforts are being made to apprehend the culprits. An intensive combing operation has been launched by the State and the Army authorities to trace out the miscreants. The Central Government have been keeping in continuous touch with the Government of Nagaland and have assured the State Government of necessary assistance not only in apprehending the culprits but also in the firm maintenance of peace and the rule of law in Nagaland.

12.08 hrs.

**PUNJAB NEW CAPITAL (PERIPHERY)
CONTROL (CHANDIGARH AMEND-
MENT) BILL***

MR. SPEAKER : I have authorised Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya to introduce this Bill, which is shown in the name of Shri Uma Shanker Dikshit.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Act, 1952 as in force in the Union Territory of Chandigarh

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Act, 1952 as in force in the Union Territory of Chandigarh."

The motion was adopted.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA :
Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.09 hrs.

**MOTION FOR UNPRECEDENTED RISE
IN PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COM-
MODITIES**

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we shall take up the motion regarding the prices of essential commodities.

SHRIS M BANERJEE (Kanpur) : On this motion, I have to make a submission, I have written to you already on this matter. Because of the unprecedented rise in the prices of essential commodities, another instalment of interim relief is due to the Central Government employees. So, it is time that the hon. Minister comes forward with a statement on this matter, because the index has already reached 238, and according to any formula, the Central Government employees are entitled to another instalment of interim relief ..

MR. SPEAKER : I did not allow him. Unless I gave my permission, how could he raise it ?

SHRIS M BANERJEE : That statement should also be made.

MR. SPEAKER : I would request the hon. Member not to come forward with this type of motion every day. After all, one a week is enough.

SHRIS M BANERJEE : After all, this motion is on rising prices, and since my point is concerned with this, therefore, I am only asking the hon. Minister, to make a statement on it.

MR. SPEAKER : When he speaks, he can mention it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I do not want to spoil the debate by raising those issues. I only request that since the prices have risen, the hon. Minister may make a statement that the Central Government employees will be entitled to a second instalment of interim relief. This is just a request that I am making. You can direct Shri K. R. Ganesh to make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER : He can make a statement if he wants.

We have allotted five hours for this discussion. Originally, it was three hours, but the Business Advisory Committee has extended it to five hours. If hon. Members want to have more time for consideration of this motion, we can take up the lunch hour also.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Yes, Sir.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No, no.

MR. SPEAKER : There will be no harm if we sit during lunch hour also...

श्री नवल किशोर शर्मा (दीपा) : मैं समझता हूँ कि जो पांच घंटे है उनका बटवारा हमारी पार्टी की स्ट्रेन्थ के आधार पर किया गया होगा और हमको उसी हिमाव में समय मिलेगा।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : टाइम जो मिलता है वह प्रोपोजिनेट होता है एकाटिंग टू दी स्ट्रेन्थ आफ दी पार्टी।

श्री एस० एम० बनर्जी : हम देश के बटवारे के खिलाफ है, समय के बटवारे के हक में कैसे हो सकते हैं। आप बटवारे की बात मत करिये। Let us sit during the lunch hour today and let us have a continuous discussion. I suggest that we may continue the discussion through the lunch hour also.

MR. SPEAKER : I think that five hours will be more than enough.

श्री नवल किशोर शर्मा : लंच आवर में बैठने पर एग्री नहीं करते हैं तो हाउस का टाइम एक्सटेंड किया जा सके तो बहुत अच्छा होगा।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : रोज एक्सटेंड करना ठीक नहीं है।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (मुरेना) : कल तक चलने दीजिए। क्या फर्क पड़ता है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपको नहीं पड़ता है, मेरे लिए पड़ता है।

श्री इसहाक सम्भली (अमरोहा) : अगर टाइम बढ़ाना ही है तो 6-20 तक करिये उसके आगे नहीं।

نشری اسحاق سمبلی (امروہا) اگر ٹائم بڑھانا ہے تو 6-20 تک کریئے اس کے آگے نہیں۔

अध्यक्ष महोदय : लंच आवर बैठ जाए तो अच्छा है। मारा गिला खत्म हो जाए। भूख में लड़ाई भी अच्छी होती है।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : उधर कोई भूखा नहीं है।

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : We can sit during the lunch hour today.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Let us sit during the lunch hour also.

MR. SPEAKER : Shall we take up the lunch hour also? I think we may take up the lunch hour also, so that we may finish the debate in time. We shall not extend the sitting later than the usual hour of interruption. The utmost that we can do is to take up the lunch hour.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA (Bhavnagar) : I beg to move :

"That this House do consider the unprecedented rise in the prices of essential commodities and the Government's inability to check the rising trend."

The rise in the prices of essential commodities is a matter of serious concern to every Member of this House. The prices of all essential commodities have gone sky-high and in spite of their promise every time,

Government have failed to arrest these rising prices. They have failed to hold the price line. This has hit hard the life of the common man. It has become impossible for him to meet the bare needs of life today.

According to the statement of Government in reply to part of question No. 1065, regarding all-India index of wholesale prices, in respect of food articles, foodgrains have gone up by 15 points, cereals by 11.9 points, wheat by 6.4 points, jowar by 16.1 points, bajra by 47.2 points, maize by 40.2 points, pulses by 25.3 points and gram by 30.6 points.

This is the order of the abnormal rise in the prices of essential commodities. In other commodities the rise has been very considerably high. Sugar price has risen by 28.4 points, fish, eggs and meat by 16.9 points. The average rise comes to between 15 and 17 per cent. This has made the life of the common man very miserable.

The prices of coarse grains have gone very high. These are the staple food of the poor people. Jowar, bajra and maize have recorded an unprecedented rise in prices. The prices of important components of the diet have also gone very high. e.g. pulses by nearly 25 per cent. This has made the life of the common man very miserable.

Who are the people who have become the direct victims of this rise in prices? They are the Government employees, the fixed salary groups, employees of local self governments, teachers of schools, colleges and universities, small businessmen, *gumastas* working in shops and establishments and the huge labour force employed in small factories, small establishments and small business. So, these people with fixed income—the salaried people, the low income-group people and the middle income-group people—are hit by this skyhigh rise in prices.

The Government's plea is that the rise in prices, especially of the foodgrains, is due to seasonal factors. It is not so. This is the only excuse that the Government advances to hide their misdoings of the past. They want to take undue shelter under the plea of seasonal factors. It is not like that. What did the mid-term appraisal of the fourth Plan say? It said that you have failed to attain

the rate of growth according to the target; and agricultural production was also not according to the target fixed by the Government. The Government have failed to achieve the maximum utilisation of the installed capacity of the public undertakings. They have also failed to utilise to the maximum the resources available to the Government, and they have also failed in the distributing system for the nation.

Sir, the Government became over-confident because of the food production, on the agricultural side. But if you scrutinise it properly, it will be observed that it was also lower than the target fixed in the fourth five year Plan. It is said that this upward trend in prices is a global trend; that this is not only in our country but it is a global trend. But it is no use advancing such arguments on the part of the Government who are primarily responsible for creating these conditions.

The economy of this country has considerably deteriorated by the wrong economic policy of this Government. Deficit financing has played a role in rising the prices of essential commodities. A disproportionate supply of money has adversely affected our economy and there has been failure to bring to book the blackmarketers. The pressure of black money is there. In addition to these, low rate of industrial and agricultural growth and the unsatisfactory distribution system are the main factors leading to these conditions. The Government has been saying that the rise in prices is natural and not unusual in a developing economy. It is a misleading argument.

It is essential that an adequate pace should be maintained and there should be co-relation of all the four factors: increase in employment, increase in wages, stabilisation of prices and equal distribution. Government cannot simply say that this is a developing economy and so an upward trend has started. It is failure on the part of the Government to create conditions for increasing the production, pay proportionate wages to the wage earners that has led to this condition. They have thus failed to stabilise the prices. They have adopted harmful economic measures to gain cheap political popularity. Sufficient warnings were given to the people in Government: you are adopting a wrong path, this will not solve the problem but will aggravate it. That warning has turned to be true and the common man is put to more hardships and miseries.

[Shri P. M. Mehta]

The value of the rupee has been eroded by nearly fifty per cent and the salaried people and people in the low and middle-income group find that their income has been eroded by nearly fifty per cent. It has really become very difficult to balance the family budget. When prices of essential commodities rise, naturally it gives an upward push to prices of other commodities and other economic activities in society. School fees go up; fares and freights go up and so on. A common man is not able to maintain the education of his children and meet his social obligations because of the rise in prices not only of essential commodities but all commodities and other economic activities. Therefore, it is very essential that Government should come out with drastic and appropriate action to bring down the price line and stabilise it at a reasonable level, so that the common man can live in a peaceful manner.

Government have attributed the high prices to seasonal factors. This is simply an excuse which has very little to do with the rise in prices. The factors responsible are the failure of the fourth plan, failure to arrest the price line, failure to give more employment and failure to increase proportionately the wages and salaries. When the mid-term appraisal of the fourth plan came up for discussion here, I had said that the situation was alarming. But because of their brute majority, this Government never learn any lesson from the factual position in the country.

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

'That this House do consider the unprecedented rise in the prices of essential commodities and the Government's inability to check the rising trend.'

There are two substitute motions by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu and by Shri Surendra Mohanty. They will be moved now and they will speak when their turn comes.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : I beg to move :

"That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely :

'This House, having considered the unprecedented rise in the prices of essential commodities and the Government's inability to check the rising trend, is of the opinion that the sea-

sonal factors have nothing to do with present price rise, but Government's faulty fiscal and monetary policies, heavy dose of deficit financing, unproductive expenditure, heavy burden of indirect taxes, and the refusal to take positive steps to unearth black money through demonetisation and other devices are mainly responsible for the alarming rise of the prices of the essential commodities and notes with regret that even now the Government is refusing to rise to the occasion and take drastic steps to bring down the prices as is evident from the complacent attitude shown by the Prime Minister in her Press Conference on July 12, 1972.' (1)

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY (Kendrapara) : I beg to move :

'That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely :

"This House, having considered the unprecedented rise in the prices of essential commodities and the Government's inability to check the rising trend, is of the opinion that the Government's complacency and failure to hold the price line while it was continuing to assert itself, increasing tempo of deficit financing, vast monetary expansion beyond budgeted limits and reckless indulgence in unproductive expenditure has resulted in the present catastrophe which calls for immediate control of the entire distribution system of sugar, edible oils and other essential commodities of daily consumption and release of substantial quantities of foodgrains to the markets from the stocks held by the Food Corporation of India." (2)

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE (Bombay-Central) : Sir, the phenomenal rise in prices has been causing anxiety to the government as well as to the public. Government have analysed and given the reasons for the phenomenal rise in prices. In my view, there is fall in production in both the industrial and agriculture sector. Though we have accepted the mixed economy, in the public sector we have not been able to make satisfactory progress. In fact, in all the industries in the

public sector barring a few ones the production is falling. So, we have started what is called the joint sector? What is the position of the joint sector? In the joint sector, which is a combination of private and public sector, even though the bureaucrats from the public sector and the industrialists from the private sector have combined, they have not been able to meet the needs of the country and give satisfaction to the people.

So far as the private sector is concerned, its main concern is to get more profits. Even though we have been speaking against monopolies, the strength of the monopolies has not been broken or reduced at all. The result is that production in the industrial sector has come down instead of going up.

What is the position in the agricultural sector? We are, and ought to be, proud of the green revolution. In fact, the burden of the song of everybody is that the green revolution has brought many benefits to the Indian people. I agree that to some extent the rich farmers as well as the big landlords have been benefited by the green revolution because of the application of advanced technology, improved seeds and fertilizers. But what is the position of the masses? Before answering that question, I would pose one question. What is the need of the masses? I am not talking of the classes. I am simply talking of the masses. The need of the masses so far as foodgrains are concerned is rice, wheat, jowar, bajra and pulses. What is the position on this front? The Minister of Agriculture was good enough to accept that so far as these fields are concerned, the production has been less, I do not say, it is a failure of the production. There has been less production, except wheat and rice. But I am not very much concerned with wheat and rice. I am concerned specially with coarse foodgrains which are distributed to the masses, that is, bajra and jowar. On that front, there is the failure of production there. The result is that there has been a phenomenal rise in the prices of these food items.

To what extent there has been the rise in prices? As regards foodgrains, on an average, the percentage of rise is 8.4 on 22.7.72 over 24.7.71. I need not deal with the rest of the matters. So far as jowar is concerned, there has been a phenomenal rise in prices to the extent of 17.4 per cent. So far as bajra is

concerned, it is 41.9 per cent. In the case of pulses, it is 26.8 per cent.

Coming to sugar and gur, in the case of sugar, the price rise is 29.1 per cent and in the case of gur, it is 32.6 per cent.

This is the position so far as coarse foodgrains are concerned. I am simply dealing with the aspect as to how the masses, the poor farmers, the agricultural labourers and the workers are affected by the phenomenal rise, the spiralling rise, in prices. With that purpose, I have given these figures.

The prices of essential goods have also gone up. So, my conclusion is that even though we have accepted a planned society, we have not been able to formulate the plan or implement the plan in the interest of the masses. I would like to elaborate so far as the figures of the rise in the cost of living index are concerned. There is constant rise in the cost of living index. Taking the base year as 1949 the cost of living index in 1950 was 101. In 1956, it rose to 105. In 1962, it further rose to 130. In 1963, it rose to 134, 1967—209; 1968—215; 1969—230; 1970—224 and 1971—230. In 1972, it rose to 236.

I have read out these figures. Why is it that as we went on formulating the plans and were trying to implement them, the cost of living index has been going up? The cost of living index is going up. To what extent we can claim that we have been able to formulate and implement the plans for the benefit of the masses? What are the daily earnings of the average worker in view of the rise in the cost of living index? It is surprising to see the daily average of earnings—minimum and maximum. Starting with Andhra Pradesh, the minimum is Rs. 1.50; Assam Rs. 1.50; Bihar Re. 1; Gujarat Rs. 1.60; about Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, surprisingly enough—because we are very proud that our State is an industrial State—the daily income in Maharashtra is only 62 Paise and Madhya Pradesh... (Interruption) These figures are from the pocket book supplied to us—Labour Statistics 1972. If these figures are bogus, then I should conclude that all figures must be bogus. There must be some veracity, some reliability; it is no use simply saying that the figures are bogus,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : The figures are right. But the analysis has to be different.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : I will go to the extent of saying that the analysis may be wrong. I am simply analysing here the figures of daily wage earner and the minimum income he is getting.

So far as agricultural labour is concerned, what are his daily earnings ? But before I answer that question, let me say what is the number of agricultural labourers in this country. I am reading from the Indian Agricultural Brief, 11th Edition, page 14. The figure given here is 12 60,12,000. This is the figure regarding the number of agricultural labourers. If there are more than 12½ crores of agricultural labourers—25 per cent of the total population—then it is but necessary for us to see as to what are the daily earnings of these agricultural labourers. I hope my analysis will not be wrong here....

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Not here (*Inter-ruption*)

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : Central zone 84 paise ; eastern zone 152 paise ; southern zone 147 paise ; western zone 140 paise ; northern zone 211 paise because in your side, Sir, Punjab, Haryana and the other side the daily earnings have gone up. The all-India figures are : men 139 paise and women 102 paise per day. But what is the value of the rupee ? It is a very surprising thing that the value of the rupee has gone down. Even though the figures may show that the earnings have gone up, we have to take into account the fact that the value of the rupee has gone down. If the base year 1949 is taken as 100, the value has gone down in 1950 to 99.1. I shall be giving the figures for the year 1964-65. Why is it that for 1964-65 the figures are given ? Ever since I came to this House, I have been insisting and pleading that there ought to be an Agricultural Inquiry Commission. We had in 1955 an Agricultural Inquiry Commission. Then again in 1961-62 we had an Agricultural Inquiry Commission, I think it was because of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who was the head of the Government and who, in view of the socialistic ideas he had which he wanted to implement, could go to the extent of appointing an Agri-

cultural Inquiry Commission. But, right from 1962 onwards, there has been no study of the living conditions of the agricultural labourers. Therefore, the value of the earnings has gone down as I said. What is the value of the rupee ? In 1963 it was 70 6 paise, 1968—46.5, 1970—44, 1971—43.5 and then 1972—42 which is the figure given by the Finance Minister himself. So, we must correlate the value of the rupee to the daily earnings of the agricultural labourers and other workers. Therefore, in the interests of the masses how are our policies reflected ? To what extent have our policies benefited the masses and the working classes and especially the poor farmers and labourers ?

Our Government has come forward to say that even though the purchasing power has gone down, they have started a distribution system by opening fair-price shops and rationing. The Agriculture Minister has given the figure—there are 125,000 fair-price shops. But, you know how the distribution has been taking place right from 1969. It was 9.6 million tonnes in 1969. Then it was brought down to 8.9 million tonnes in 1970 and only 7.7 million tonnes in 1971. Even the number of fair-price shops and ration shops has gone down from year to year. How many villages are there in our country ? 5,50,000 but what is the number of fair-price shops ? 1,25,000. Yet, we think in terms of helping the poor and needy.

Therefore, I would suggest that in view of the present position and in view of the sufferings of the masses and the working classes and the agricultural labourers, the Plan should be so oriented, so re-drafted as to subserve the interests of the masses and the workers and the agricultural labourers. Therefore, we must have a long-term and a short-term measure. As a part of the long-term plan, I would suggest that all essential commodities which are the necessities of life of the masses should be brought under the public sector. No individual or no private house should be allowed to exploit the suffering of the masses.

Then, again as, a short term measure, I would suggest to the Government that they must start works. It may be called famine works. It may be called relief works. But let the work be started so that at least the poor people who have no capacity to earn or who

cannot earn because of unemployment and under-employment can get some employment and with the help of their earning they can go to the fair-price shops so that they can live on. With these words, I express my anxiety and concern for the rise in prices. Government must come forward to reduce the prices. It is no use saying that we have 9 million tonnes of foodgrains and we can distribute it. After all how many millions are there, how many months to be fed, and to what extent we can distribute? So, all these things should be considered. With these words I have done.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): At the very outset I must say that this Government has miserably failed to check rise in prices. On the 15th of this month we are going to celebrate the twenty-fifth Anniversary of our independence. It is a paradox that when we are going to celebrate this 25th Anniversary, the Silver Jubilee of our independence, millions of people are parctically facing starvation or undergoing semi-starvation conditions.

In this matter Government should openly admit their failure and take the co-operation of all the political parties and accept suggestions and come to some common understanding.

According to the statement of the Finance Minister made on the floor of the House in response to Calling Attention Notice on 31st July 1972, he admitted that the prices have gone up and it had reached 239 according to the statement. He said that some measures were being taken. I do not want to read the whole thing. The House heard with rapt attention what he had to say in that statement. We are being told through newspapers that drastic steps are being taken. Even the Congress MPs, belonging to the ruling party, in their party meeting, have demanded some drastic steps and my hon. friend Shri Bhandare, has just pointed out that all the essential things required for the common man should be brought under the public sector. But what do we see, Sir?

I read an item from the newspaper of the 10th August, 1972, that is, today.

"Ahmed rules out rationing of foodgrains. The Government's vacillation over adop-

ting of drastic measures to check rising prices was made clear by Food Minister F. A. Ahmed's statement at a news conference on Wednesday ruling out rationing this year."

Against a population of so many millions, against the number of villages of over 5 lakhs there are only 1,30,000 fairprice shops. Prices have gone up in open market beyond imagination. Here is the Food Minister ruling out total rationing or take over of foodgrains. Several suggestions were made to Shri Chavan by hon. Members for taking over the wholesale trade in foodgrains. He replied :

"What is over attitude to the wholesale trade? In principle we have said that we have to take over the wholesale trade."

They accept this in principle. They accept socialism in principle. They accept democracy in principle. They accept the taking over of the wholesale trade in principle. But when it comes to reality, what is happening? There is no rationing and there is no take-over and no natioalisation of the means of production. That is a sad commentary on the various assurances given by this Government both inside and outside the House.

The other day, with your help, Sir, we got a statement by the hon. Food Minister regarding the distribution and availability of sugar. There also, the question of 40 per cent and 60 per cent was brought in. This Government is swinging between control and decontrol. We expected this Government to behave better than the Prince of Denmark, Hamlet, who was thinking 'To be or not to be? To take over or not to take over? Control or decontrol?', I submit that this Government cannot behave like Hamlet at the cost of the entire nation.

We wanted the sugar mills to be taken over. A solemn pledge and a solen assurance was given in this House and also by the Chief Minister of UP in the State Assembly of UP and by the Chief Minister of Bihar in the Bihar Assembly. But what has happened? Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde is here, and I would like to know from him whether it is a fact that the UP Government have sent a draft Bill to the Centre for nationlisation of the sugar mills in UP, and whether it is a fact that it is lying in cold storage. We accused

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the UP Government, but when we met the Chief Minister of UP and brought to his notice the scandalous state of affairs going on in the sugar mills and we demanded nationalisation of the sugar mills, he immediately pointed out to us that the ball was in the court of the Central Government and not with them. I would like whether a draft Bill was sent, and if so, what the fact of that Bill is, and whether it is going to see the light of day or not and whether it has been intentionally shelved because of pressure from the sugar mill magnates.

Therefore, my submission is that Government should do something more than give an assurance. I expected that the Planning Minister would have been here, but he has conveniently avoided it. When the entire country is watching our performance on this and they are expecting some very fruitful results and they want to save their children from starvation and they expect Parliament to react and to help the starving millions, I expected that the Prime Minister would also have been here. I do not know whether in the course of the discussion she would be here...

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): She is not interested.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE: I know that Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde and Shri K.R. Ganesh are here, and I have been an admirer of their performance. They may be able to debate well, but the country expects something from the Prime Minister also on this issue, because it is the Government which has failed. People have co-operated always. The peasants were asked to produce more, and the green revolution was there. The workers were asked to produce more and there was maximum output, and in every emergency, the people of this country have stood like one man, and they have helped. But in return they expect two hot meals which they have been denied of...

SHRI K. R. GANESH: May I make a clarification? As the hon member knows, this problem was also discussed in the other House. The Prime Minister met the Leaders of the Opposition parties, and there was a threadbare discussion on the various issues that were involved in this problem and Go-

vernment have already initiated certain steps...

SHRI P.K. DEO (Kalahandi): We are not satisfied.

SHRI K.R. GANESH: I am not saying that hon. Members should be satisfied with this, but I am only giving a factual answer to the point raised by the hon. Member. The Prime Minister is very seriously concerned. She had called the meeting of the Leaders of the Opposition parties to find out the various problems.

As far as the Finance Minister is concerned, he is listening to the debate, and I am taking also extensive notes...

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE: I was referring to the Planning Minister.

SHRI K.R. GANESH: I am not speaking on behalf of the Planning Minister but of the Finance Minister. In fact, he will be replying to the debate. I am mentioning this only to point out that there is seriousness on the part of Government on this very serious problem, and we share the concern of the House, because it is a national problem and there is no escape from a solution of this problem.

13hrs.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE: I am thankful for the explanation. I have never disputed his status I accept him as the Finance Minister as I accept Shri Shinde as the Food or Agriculture Minister. But if the Prime Minister can afford to listen to our speeches in her room and the Finance Minister also has decided to hear everything in his room, what is the use of discussing a matter like this here? That is not the question. The point is that Parliament is agitated over this matter. There was a call attention motion on the subject which you admitted. Then you kindly allowed a discussion. A statement was also made on sugar on your directive. Now you have allowed a 6-hour discussion on prices here. That is why I expected the Prime Minister to be here at least for some time. I do not say she is callous or indifferent to the problem. But after all, when Parliament is in session, when we are discussing this serious matter, I expected that she would be here.

MR. SPEAKER: He has explained the

position. The Prime Minister normally comes, but sometimes she has other engagements.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : Let her intervene in the debate.

SHRI PILOO MODY : She is not interested. Why does he not take my word for it ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I mentioned about the Planning Minister also. The Planning Commission has chalked out a long term and short-term plan. Is it too much to expect him to be present here during this discussion ?

MR. SPEAKER : Let him carry on. He can do only with those who are present.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : When the Prime Minister met Opposition members, she said there is no question of panic. There is no question of panic. After all, the people are not panicky. It is a question of not getting the essentials of life at reasonable prices. If you go to the market, you will find sugar is being sold at Rs. 6, Rs. 5 a kilogram; Rs. 4.30 per kilogram is the minimum in the open market. All the important things, necessities of life, whether it is vegetable ghee or pulses or jowar or bajra have shot up in price.

What is the remedy ? I am happy that certain godowns have been searched—I am so happy about it. Something has also been found out. In one case, 20 bags were found. But have they been punished ? Not yet. I am really sorry about it. Had there been deterrent and exemplary punishment given to some, I do not think such people would resort to this nefarious practice. We are constrained to say that the black marketing machinery, the machinery of the hoarders and blackmarketeers, has proved once again more powerful than the government machinery. That is why we request that certain effective measures be taken.

On behalf of my party, we have given certain suggestions. We have been shouting in this House and outside for days, months and years together that the wholesale trade in foodgrains should be taken over.

SHRI PILOO MODY : That will not solve the problem.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : That will not solve his problem. But it will solve the problem of the country. We are not interested in providing two meals to Shri Piloo Mody, but we are interested about providing them to the millions.

The current price rise was not accidental but the direct result of the stubborn refusal of Government to curb monopolists who control many essentials means of production, specially consumer goods. We wanted that the wholesale trade should be taken over by Government.

What are we going to do to check the inflow of black money into the economy of our country ? According to a rough estimate, black money circulating in the country is to the tune of Rs. 4,000 crores.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Rs. 7,000 crores.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : Rs. 7,000 crores. He knows better than I. Mr. Piloo Mody's information may be correct.

SHRI PILOO MODY : In things economics, I know better than you.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : So, sir, why should we not demonetise currency notes of Rs. 100 and above ? What is the fear in the mind of the Government ? We demonetise, the black money is bound to go. It is high time that currency notes of Rs. 100 and above were demonetised.

Then, illegal forward trading going on is unabated and unchecked. I produced many documents. I am happy that the Ministry of Industrial Development has stopped forward trading in gur. But what about illegal speculative measures which are being indulged in ? So, we demand the distribution of these commodities and cheap cloth through fair price shops, and cooperatives in urban and rural areas.

Then, we demand the nationalisation of sugar and textile mills. Unless the sugar mills are nationalised, the sugar scandal cannot be stopped, and it will go on unabated and unchecked. I have already said that a

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Bill is already pending, and when it comes from the Uttar Pradesh Government it should be immediately passed or it should be okayed.

Then, there should be immediate supply of food and other essential commodities through the fair price shops. The number of shops should be increased. There should be a suspension of the collection of taxes and recovery of loans from peasants in the drought-affected areas. You know the extent of misery caused by the drought to the people. Then there should be the introduction of production-oriented work and relief programmes to give employment to agricultural workers and the poor people. Long-term irrigation projects to remove the drought menace for good, should be initiated.

Then, the Reserve Bank should also act. The Reserve Bank and the other nationalised banks are now giving loans, but to whom? To the landlords in the name of collective farming and co-operative farming and to the big business families. That is why we feel that the Reserve Bank and other nationalised banks should adopt a project-oriented and non-speculative credit policy.

In addition, there should be deterrent punishment given to the blackmarketers and hoarders. I hope the Government will take note of this, because the line between hunger and anger has become thinner, and once they meet, then, no power on earth, whether it is this party or that party, will be able to check the same. And the youth of the country will rally round and the starving millions of this country will rise once again in revolution against the powers that be and that will be a very sad day to everyone. That will be bidding good-bye to parliamentary democracy. And if in Parliament, the more we discuss and the more the prices rise, what is the use of having a discussion? The people will be forced to loot the shops and kill the blackmarketers, whether you like it or not.

Another two minutes, and I shall have done. My last point is this. I have demanded that with the rising prices of essential commodities, the cases of the salaried employees and the middle class people who are most affected should also be considered.

What is happening? (Interruption) The value of the rupee has gone down to 42 paise.

AN HON. MEMBER : What will happen?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Nothing will happen! Nothing will happen to the MPs; they can take two hot meals anytime they like, but it is the people at large who are suffering. I stand for the salaried people also. A note has been given under your instructions, by the Finance Ministry. Now, my demand about the interim relief to the Central Government employees was that they were entitled to another slab of interim relief on the index reaching 238. What is the reply that they have given? According to the information at present available, though the consumer price index for the month of May, 1972 has reached 238, the 12-monthly average of the index for the period ending May, 1972 stands at 235.66 only, and thus, the time for further review of the position regarding interim relief has not yet been reached. When it was 225, we demanded that the interim relief should be paid at 235. But the Government, I am sorry to say, cheated the Central Government employees and said "You are entitled to increase when it reaches 238." When will the figure for June and July be out? This figure is in relation only to the end of May, 1972, namely, 235.66, that is, 236. What about the figure for June? What about the figure for July? Once the figure rose to 238, the Central Government employees should have been given an additional interim relief. They cannot wait any longer. If the prices are rising as they are, if the purchasing power is becoming less and less and if the value of the rupee has gone down, there is no other way for the Central Government employees but to go on a wage-strike and demand another instalment of interim relief.

Those suggestion which we have given are not given in the heat of the moment. My Party has been pleading with the Government to consider these suggestions and answer our questions. If the Planning Minister feels that there should be some change in the planning, let him come here and make a statement. What are his plans to curb the prices? What are his plans to curb monopoly houses in the country? He should make a statement on these things.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT (Shahabad) : The House and the country are quite naturally concerned and exercised over the unprecedented rise in prices during the last three months. Government have come forward with various measures to deal with this situation. Some are short-term. The focal point of rise is in the food-grains and the Food and Agricultural Minister is giving thought to this matter. The long term aspect is that price rise is a phenomenon which is the result of malfunctioning of the economy and has a snowballing effect over a period. Various basic imbalances in the economy, co-ordinates like production in agriculture and manufactures, monetary aspect and fiscal aspect, saving and investment aspect—all these should be married into a policy. Otherwise it will not be realistic to say that victory over prices had been achieved.

In the more advanced and progressive economies we have not only a price policy but also an income policy. These are integrated. In the short time at my disposal I shall take up the basic issue connected with this.

If we see the cost of living index commoditywise, there has been an all round rise in prices. As on 15.7.1972 the food articles have risen by 25.1 per cent manufactures had risen by 8 per cent. In Industrial raw materials only there has been a fall.

AN HON. MEMBER : Liquor prices too.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : There is a rise of 33 per cent in liquor but I am not bothered about that.

Because of plentiful supply in cotton, jute, and oil seeds the price of industrial raw materials had fallen. The overall increase has been 13.7 per cent. This is an unprecedented increase if you compare our experience over the last decade. The worst years were 1966, 1967 and 1968, when cumulative price rise was about 30 per cent mainly because of fall in grain production. Other factors were responsible for bringing down industrial production as well. Even compared to that, the price rise this year is much more.

A point is made that there is a world-wide phenomenon of inflation. That is true. There is a crisis in currency and monetary situation in the world. But there the price rise is only 3 or 4 or 6 per cent, not 13.6 per cent. First,

the dollar was floated. The result was, American economy gained at the cost of the Japanese, French and others. Now the pound is floating. It may be again to England. But what about developing countries like India? The Minister of State is here and I expect he will have fresh ideas on this. We are losing everywhere. When the dollar was floated, we lost millions of rupees. Again when the pound is floating, we are losing. We have a fixed rate of Rs. 7.28 per dollar. But today in official transactions, the dollar is selling at Rs. 7.55 or Rs. 7.80. For every dollar, we are losing at least 50 cents. Out of our total import of say Rs. 1500 crores, if you leave aside the imports from socialist countries amounting to Rs. 500 to 700 crores, on the remaining Rs. 800 crores we are losing 50 cents for every dollar. But yet the Reserve Bank and the Finance Ministry are sitting over it doing nothing as if it is impossible to do anything! So, apart from the internal inflation, there is inflation that is being imported into the country. We have the best brains in the Reserve Bank and they have nothing to say on this matter! But what about the socialist countries? They have more rational and more scientific system. I know that in the case of East European countries, with every floating of currency, whether it is dollar or pound, their economies make enormous profits. Why can't we do that?

Coming to the internal situation of prices, there are two aspects: demand and supply. The supply side is important mostly in an under-developed economy like ours. It has been said often that because of the delay in the monsoon, the entire economy is thrown out of gear. This should make us pause and think. After 25 years of freedom, after 4 five year plans involving large irrigation and other programmes, is our economy so vulnerable that if the monsoon is delayed by three weeks, there is a crisis? So, that is not the whole story. Even though emphasis is put on this, it is due more to other causes.

What is the reason for the prices of manufactured goods, industrial manufactures, going up year after year for the last four or five years at the rate of 6 to 7 per cent? Of course, this year it is much more. Every year you cannot attribute it to seasonal factors. There are other elements.

[Shri B. R. Bhagat]

One such element is the fiscal and monetary policy. Despite the claim made by the Finance Minister that he has been trying to hold deficit financing and creation of paper money, it is going up every year. It is true that last year we had external threat and we had to fight a war over and above the enormous burden of looking after 10 million refugees from Bangladesh. So, the Finance Minister came before this House with proposals of additional taxation to the extent of Rs. 200 crores. Despite all that the deficit financing that is taking place is unprecedented. In 1969-70 the extent of deficit financing was only Rs. 58 crores. In 1970-71 it rose to Rs. 365 crores and in 1971-72 to Rs. 380 crores. For the current year I can only make an estimate because firm figures are not available. The expectation is that this year it may be of the order of Rs. 900 crores.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : The only clarification that I can give is that the drought situation, flood situation and various other situations which we are seeing in our country are very much part of the reality which the Indian economy is facing.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : I am trying to say that the law of economics is inexorable and these factors have their impact on the price situation. In addition to this deficit financing of Rs. 900 crores, the overdrafts to the States have reached an all-time high figures of Rs. 498 crores. All these are bound to affect the situation.

Having analysed the price situation, the external and internal factors, the fiscal and monetary factors, what are we to do? Certain short term measures have been taken on a war footing and I am quite sure they are going to succeed and they will certainly alleviate the sufferings of the people to a certain extent. I think they have taken a correct decision to route all sales through fair price shops. That will help to protect the interests of the weaker sections. Not only for foodgrains but for articles of mass consumption there should be a public distribution system. It should cover articles like cloth, edible oils, sugar and so on. The scarcity in the case of sugar is purely artificial. It has disappeared from the market. By bringing all these items under the public distribution system we can protect the interests of the

weaker sections. Now even people with an income of Rs. 2,000 in a city like Delhi are finding it difficult to make both ends meet.

SHRI B. V. Naik (Kanara) : Rs. 2000 per year or per month?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : Rs. 2000 per month.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : That is a weaker section.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : Of course, weaker section means only people with smaller income. But I say, in cities, even people with Rs. 2000 per month find it difficult to make both ends meet these days. The idea that I want to underline is that all articles of mass consumption should be routed through public distribution agency.

I am saying it because last time, in 1966-67, the same point was made in the House, and from Government side too, that whatever be the situation, whether it is a good situation or a bad situation or a critical situation, the public distribution agency should take care of all the articles of mass consumption for meeting the needs of the masses. But it was given up the moment the situation eased. That should not happen. It should not be a part of any short-term measure. It should be a part of the permanent policy so that the public distribution agency must take care of the entire country in the matter of distribution of articles of mass consumption. This is my submission in regard to short-term measures.

The basic aspect of the situation is this. The hon. Member said that the Planning Minister must come forward and enlighten the House. Unless we take steps to re-set our priorities, we cannot get the results. What is happening? The investment is falling over the last two or three years. The present situation is critical. I can understand, in the industrial sector, the larger houses, rightly, have been curbed so that their investments should come down. But there is no reason why in the small-scale sector, in the middle-scale sector, the investment has not gone up. I was surprised to read the Mid-Term Plan Appraisal. Even in the public sector, the investment is only of the order of about half of what the Plan provides. In the last three

years, the rate of investment in the public sector is about half. Therefore, what is taking place is that the investments are going down not only in those sectors which are priority sectors but also in other sectors.

The savings are going down. The inflation is taking place. The rate of growth is coming down. On the top of it, there is going to be the deficit financing to the tune of Rs. 900 crores. If the economy had registered the growth of 10 per cent, if we had realised our targets of food production, this deficit financing of Rs. 900 crores would not have mattered much. The basic thing is, if you want to ensure the economy against periodic crisis coming up and, again, deflecting us from the path of development, from the path of social change, from achieving our objective of self-reliance and making our economy viable, it is necessary that there should be a change in the priorities in the Plan. Let it be in a manner so that not only we achieve a higher rate of growth but distribution process is also built in the system. Growth with social justice is only a slogan today. It must be achieved. Only through the public distribution agency and the change in the priorities in the Plan, we will be able to deal with this situation, not only this situation but any other situation coming in the future.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : He has made a positive speech and a very important speech. The only point which I wish to put before him is that in regard to gigantic investment, inflation, deficit financing and production about which he talked and which are very much correlated, I expected an answer from him.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : I will provide the answer.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I am not in confrontation with you.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : You asked a question, and I said that I would reply.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Why is he angry ?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : He says that I am angry. I pity the Minister and his wisdom.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I asked for the answer from Mr. Bhagat.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Era Sezhiyan.

The hon. members may not be too long in their speeches. The time is limited and there are a large number of members who want to speak. We have distributed the available time according to the parties and according to the numbers. So we must stick to the time.

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam) : Before I come to the subject-matter, I want to say one thing. Though I have got every respect for Mr. Ganesh and for his competency to tackle this question, I want to point out that, in all fairness to the House, in all fairness to the seriousness of the problem that we are discussing today, we had expected the Finance Minister to be present here to listen to the debate and to answer. Also the Prime Minister and the Planning Minister should have been present. It is a pity that they have not paid due attention or respect to this House.

13.31 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

AN HON. MEMBER : This is lunch time.

SHRI SEZHIYAN : Millions of people are not having their lunch due to rise in prices.

We have been discussing the subject of rising prices now and then every year, every session; in some form or other the problem comes before this House. It appears to be symptomatic of a deep malady that is corroding the economic structure and the economic welfare of the society of this country. I would not say that Government are unaware of this problem. I cannot say that they are ignorant of the trends of rising prices. It can be said to the credit of the ruling Congress party that they have been very categorical in their statement and they have been very clear in their stand. The Congress party has said :

"It is of highest importance to keep prices from rising and to endeavour to reduce them. Many of our difficulties today are

{Shri Sezhiyan}

due to high and rising price level and the economic development has been seriously hampered because of this."

This is a categorical determination shown by the ruling Congress party. When they have said 'today', it does not mean today. It was said in the Congress manifesto in the year 1952. In the year 1952 they had been saying that it was of highest importance to keep the prices down from rising and to endeavour to reduce them! Even in the mid-term election manifesto, in February 1971, the Congress party boldly sought "a clear mandate to control prices and to ensure to the people the supplies of essential commodities at reasonable prices". Therefore, it is not for want of knowledge of the rising prices. I can say that they are aware; they are fully aware at least when elections come and they have to face the people.

Whenever the Minister and the Prime Minister are called upon to answer about the serious crisis of the high rise in prices, some age-old arguments are repeated. One of them is that, as was referred to by Mr. Bhagat, there was delay in the setting in of the monsoon and there was low production. But I would expect the Government to have a plan. Four Five-Year plans have been there, and they are formulating the Fifth Five-Year Plan also. A planned economy worth the name should take into account not only the normal and favourable conditions but also the fluctuations in climatic changes. Sir, India, is after all, a country of sub-continental dimensions. If there is flood in one area, there will be drought in another area and we cannot have continuous bumper crop years. But, for the last five years we had good crop seasons and a slight delay in the onset of monsoon should not upset the entire programme and the economic situation in the country.

Mr Chavan, the other day, while replying to a call attention notice, gave a very stern warning and he said that the Government would certainly take very prompt action against the hoarders and speculators. I accept his sincerity, even as we accepted the sincerity of the Government when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said about two decades ago that all the black-marketeers and hoarders would be hanged by the nearest lamp-posts.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : They have been given Congress tickets now.

SHRI SEZHIYAN : Sir, in the country the lamp posts have increased, so also the black-marketeers. There seems to be correlation between these two. (*Interruptions*) Instead of hanging them by the rope at the nearest lamp post, they have been garlanded with roses and favoured with other things.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, we have an Essential Commodities Act and it is the responsibility and within the power of the State Government to use that Act.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Wonderful ! Now, you are exonerated.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I am not exonerating myself. I am only placing the facts.

SHRI SEZHIYAN : Sir, the rise in prices has been caused entirely due to the actions of the Central Government. The State Governments are at the mercy of the Centre. Whenever the prices rise, it is due to your faulty planning, unfulfilled plan targets, infructuous spending, unbridled inflation, mounting burden of indirect taxes, the parallel economy of the black money, defective distribution, etc. All these things I place squarely at the door of the Central Government. The Central Government being the source of the crisis, it is very difficult for the State Government to control it. When you allow an increase in DA to the Central Government staff, the State Governments are put to much burden and they are in an unenviable position because they are not able to provide extra D.A. out of their slender resources.

Sir, whenever the prices rise, there is a warning. But, those who are in authority, the Finance Minister, the Prime Minister and the Food Minister, take a very complacent attitude. When the Prime Minister met the Press on July 12, only a month ago, she told the press, "I am told that the prices have shown some decline and I expect them to come down further." On July 12, she expected and her economic advisers had reported to her that the prices were going down whereas actually the prices were galloping in the market.

It has been reported in the *Times of India*—editorial of 4th August 1972, only about a week earlier that Mr. Shinde had assured the public that the grain prices were declining. Such is their complacency. One more argument is that there has been an inflation and the inflation will have its effect. Because of Bangla Desh and other emergency activities, there have been inflationary expenditures on the part of the Government and therefore, the increase in prices. But I can say to the Finance Minister that there was an analysis conducted by the Government and it has come out in January 1972 much after the Bangla Desh conflict and spending due to that account. They have said that the trend of inflationary pressures was checked at the end of September 1971. Government itself after deep analysis stated that they had controlled the inflationary tendencies in the country. That should not be given as the reason now.

When the price rises it is the low income group and fixed income group that will be the hardest hit in their day-to-day life. The Prime Minister was pleased to say in her Press Conference that "you cannot have higher wages and low prices." I say that "you cannot have low wages and higher prices together." Why do the wage-earners want the higher emoluments, increase in D.A. etc? It is because of the rise in prices. They are being forced to ask for this rise in emoluments to offset the effects of price rise.

The National Commission on Labour was given a task of analysing the condition of labour in respect of their working, wage—earning capacity, etc. etc. That Commission submitted their report in 1969. They have evaluated the wage-earning capacity of the factory worker, especially, the factory worker getting Rs. 200 and less. They found that the 'real earnings' of a factory worker getting less than Rs. 200 per month have risen by about 4.6 per cent only from 1951 to 1964. From the beginning of the first Five-year Plan till the end of the Third Five-year plan there has been only 4.6 per cent increase. He has got so many commitments to fulfil. He has got a growing family. But only an increase of 4.6 per cent has come to him. I will take the case of the Class IV employees of the railways. From the year 1949 to 1968 for two decades the real earning of the Class IV employee in Rail-

ways has gone up by only one per cent. Therefore, there is no use saying that higher wages and low prices do not go together. Whereas his commitments are increasing his family is increasing, the Class IV employee got only one per cent increase and the factory worker got only 4 per cent increase. This is the position. The real wages are not coming up; consumption levels are going down; you cannot give the argument that there should be freeze on wages, without freeze on the price rise.

There is another very handy argument that there is less production and therefore the costs have gone up. I don't say that when production is going down, demand can be fulfilled. But, in Indian economy, even at a time when production went up, prices have not come down, but to the contrary prices have gone up. Take foodgrains for the year 1970. There was a bumper crop, which crossed the 100 million tonnes of foodgrain for the first time. But, for the food articles in November, 1969, the index point was 192. In November, 1970, in one year period, when the bumper crop was crossing the 100 million mark the food price index went up to 211. 19 points rise was recorded in this year when there was a bumper crop. Therefore, don't give the argument that because of low production prices are going up. Even when production was going even when there was a bumper crop, prices have not been put down. The sharpest rise had occurred precisely in the field where there was more production. Our industrial production was sluggish during the past decade. But the rise in the prices of the manufactured items is not as much as in the case of foodgrains where you had the bumper crop. Therefore, Sir, this argument that is advanced, namely, that because of low production prices have gone up, is not correct. Just now, it has been said that the State Governments have enough powers to control the prices. But it is the Central Government that indulges in heavy indirect taxation. And it is this mounting burden of indirect taxation which has gone a long way in putting up the prices of many of the essential commodities.

For example, the consumer articles like cloth, sugar, cement etc have always experienced a very high dose of indirect taxation. When we come to direct taxation, we find that Rs. 500

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crores of income-tax is always left in arrears. But in the case of indirect taxation, it can never be in arrears, because whenever anybody buys an article he is forced to pay the indirect tax and then take the article home.

In the case of cloth, indirect taxation has been 50 to 75 per cent of the ex-factory price in the case of sugar it is 75 per cent, cement between 60 and 70 per cent, steel 50 to 60 per cent, and in the case of rayon it is 50 to 75 per cent. Now the steel prices have also been increased. Steel goes into the making of every consumer article, and, therefore, the increase in steel price is bound to increase the prices of the other consumer articles. So, in the case of vehicles, in the case of transport, in the case of bridges, and in housing schemes and everything else, whenever there is an increase in the price of steel, it is going to contribute to an increase in the cost in respect of all these items.

No answer has been given in regard to the distribution system so far. Government have been promising that they will open more and more consumer co-operative societies. I welcome the idea. But the consumer co-operative system started in 1962, and for a decade it has been working. But with what results? There is one big superbazar here in Delhi. As one paper rightly pointed out the other day, it should indeed be called a super-profit bazar...

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI (Shajapur): In spite of that, there have been super-losses.

SHRI SEZHIYAN : I shall come to that later.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is not much time left for that.

SHRI SEZHIYAN : The prices of almost all the articles sold in the superbazar are higher than the general market price prevailing outside. That point was brought out in this House last year. The Public Accounts Committee went into the entire question and came to the conclusion that instead of leading the market, the superbazar was being led by the market prices. For example, my wife bought the other day 200 gm. of Bru Coffee at Rs. 10.45 in the Superbazar. When we came

out, we found that its market price was only Rs. 9.85 in other areas. When asked, the Brooke Bond people said that they were selling it to the Superbazar at Rs. 9.20. Instead of setting an example to others, we find that the superbazar is charging very high prices; and yet we find that while they have a capital of Rs. 42 lakhs, they have incurred a loss of Rs. 66 lakhs in spite of all the high prices that they could charge.

The Prime Minister met the Members the other day, and the same advice given by her regarding the price rise in sugar was 'Do not consume sugar'. I hope that this advice does not extend to wheat and other things. I hope she will not say, 'Do not consume wheat do not consume rice'. It is not the consumption which has risen. In fact, the consumption level has not risen at all. When we take the *per capita* consumption of wheat or rice, we find that it has been going down year by year, but the prices are always rising. Therefore, whenever Government come forward to give very pious advice to the poor people, I hope that they will give some effective advice to the profiteers and blackmarketeers who are running a parallel economy with Rs. 3500 or Rs. 5000 or Rs. 8000 crores, it is anybody's guess, of black money. Government should come down very heavily on those people. I lay the entire blame for this increasing price spiral squarely at the doors of the Central Government, because it is their fiscal policies which have ended in this fiasco and the country has been put to such great distress. The poverty-stricken people have been bled because of these price increases whereas big business has been allowed to reap heavy and windfall profits at the same time.

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे (गोरखपुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ आज जो कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं उसका कारण केवल केन्द्रीय सरकार ही नहीं है, उसकी नीतियाँ ही नहीं हैं बल्कि उसका कारण और बहुत सी चीजें हैं जिन्हें जब हम जो भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था है, जिस तरह की अर्थव्यवस्था हमारे देश में चल रही है और जिस तरह से आज सरकार को उसके ऊपर नियंत्रण रखना पड़ता है उसको यदि हम महेनजर रखेंगे तो हमें उन मूल कारकों का पता चलेगा। यह बात सही है कि खाद्यान्नों के भावों में काफी वृद्धि हुई है और

उस वृद्धि का कारण बहुत-सी चीजें बतायी गयीं हैं, कहीं पर कहा गया है कि ज्यादा इन्वेस्टमेंट किया गया, ओवर इन्फ्लेशन हुआ, डेफिसेंट फाइनेंसिंग हुई और सट्टे बाजार की बात भी कही गयी है। जो भाज कीमतों की वृद्धि हुई है इसके ऊपर सरकार ने अपना एक विचार रखा है। मैं एक दूसरा विचार आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। मैं ऐसा मानता हूँ कि जिस तरह की हमारी अर्थ-व्यवस्था चल रही है उस अर्थ-व्यवस्था में, मिश्रित इकनोमी ही एक ऐसी अर्थ-व्यवस्था है कि जिसके रहते हुए इस देश में यदि हम चाहे कि चीजों के दाम पर, चाहे खाद्यान्न हो, चाहे इण्डस्ट्रियल गुड्स हो, चाहे कपूतमर गुड्स हो, उनके ऊपर हम कोई अपना बंधन रख सकते हैं तो हमें बहुत ही इसके बारे में गहराई से विचार करना पड़ेगा। मैं ऐसा मानता हूँ कि आज इस अर्थ-व्यवस्था के रहते हुए इण्डियन इकनोमी में चाहे हम कितनी ही इन्वेस्टमेंट क्यों न करें, हम राईजिंग प्राइसेज की तरफ जायेंगे। वांचू कमेटी के आचार पर यदि आंकड़े एकत्रित किए जायें तो मालूम होगा कि सात हजार करोड़ रु० के लगभग ब्लैक मनी सर्कुलेशन में है। यह हमारी अर्थ-व्यवस्था को कहा ले जाएगा हमें सोचना पड़ेगा।

जब हरित क्रांति होती है, देश में खाद्यान्न का उत्पादन बढ़ता है तो कहा जाता है कि बाजार नीचे आया। लेकिन जहाँ मौसम खराब हुआ या कोई ट्रम्पेरी बात आ गयी उसी समय सट्टे बाजारी, व्यापारी चीजों को ऐसी जगह पर ले जाते हैं जहाँ सरकार को नाना प्रकार के ऐसे रास्ते अतिथार करने पड़ते हैं जिससे देश के अन्दर बहुत से लोगों को प्रजातन्त्र में बहुत कुछ कहना पड़ता है कि "आखिर देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था कैसे चल रही है।" खाद्यान्न के बारे में जो आंकड़े दिये गये यदि उनको सही माना जाय तो अति-शतोक्ति नहीं होगी कि चीजों के दाम बढ़ें।

SHRI JAGADISH BHATTACHARYYA (Ghatal) : On a point of order. There is no quorum in the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let me have it checked up.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU. The Prime Minister functions *in absentia*. The Ministers are not available, the Finance Minister is not to be seen here. And look at the condition of the M.M. Party. We are much better off on this side.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: It has been the convention that the question of quorum should not be raised during the lunch hour.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Order, order.

SHRIMATI GAYATRI DEVI OF JAIPUR (Jaipur) : It is very surprising that he should be talking about lunch hour when the country is facing such a shortage of food. That is why the Treasury Benches are empty.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Having lunch at the expense of the country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If the members observe the convention, that is all right. If they do not, I have to go by the Constitution.

Let the bell be rung ..

Now, there is quorum. The hon. Member may continue.

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : मैं निवेदन कर रहा था कि इस बात में कोई अतिशयोक्ति नहीं रह गयी है, माननीय मंत्री जी ने भी स्वीकार किया है और सरकार ने भी इस बात को स्वीकार किया है कि फूड आर्टिकल्स के दाम इन दिनों काफी बढ़े हैं। लेकिन बढ़ने का जो कारण दिया जाता है कि मौसम खराब होने के कारण प्राइसेज बढ़ गयी, तो मौसम के कारण आज प्रोडक्शन कुछ घट सकता है, लेकिन इसका मतलब यह नहीं है जबकि आप के पास 95 लाख टन, जैसा कि आप खुद कहते हैं, हमारे स्टॉक में जमा है, फिर भी चीजों के दाम इतने बढ़ जायें। इसलिए केवल स्टेटमेंट देने से और उसको दस्तेमाल न कर के आप सिक्चुरेशन को और प्राइसेज को कंट्रोल नहीं कर पाएँगे।

कभी हरित क्रांति होती है तो हम लोग कहने लगते हैं कि हमारे यहाँ प्रोडक्शन बढ़ गया।

[श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे]

अच्छा है प्रोडक्शन बढ़े, इण्डस्ट्रियल गुड्स का, खाद्यान्न का प्रोडक्शन बढ़े, लेकिन उसके साथ-साथ यदि आप उसके वितरण पर कंट्रोल नहीं रखेंगे तो प्रोडक्शन का कोई मतलब नहीं रह सकता है। और इसलिए मैंने कहा कि आज केवल खाद्यान्न के मामले में नहीं, चीनी के मामले में भी हालत खराब हो गयी है। मई के महीने से चीनी के भाव बहुत बढ़ गए हैं। डीकंट्रोल के पहले कहा गया 14 लाख टन चीनी हमारे पास बफर स्टॉक पिछले साल का है, और 35 लाख टन इस साल पैदा होगी। 40 लाख टन का हमारा कंजमेशन है, और बताया गया कि हमारी पाइप लाइन में चीनी सबसे अधिक रह पायेगी, और हम देश को चीनी के मामले में आत्मनिर्भर करेंगे। बांग्ला देश को भी भेंजेंगे, बाहर भी एक्सपोर्ट करेंगे, पांच करोड़ रु० तक की हमारी प्लानिंग भी फॉरन एक्सचेंज अनं करने की। लेकिन अभी जब हमने मिल मालिकों के ऐग्रीसिएशन का वक्तव्य देखा तो उन्होंने कहा कि दो लाख टन चीनी यदि इम्पोर्ट नहीं की गयी तो चीनी के बढ़ते हुए भाव को नहीं रोका जा सकता। उन्होंने जो अपने वक्तव्य में कहा उसका कंट्राडिक्शन अभी तक कोई नहीं आया। इनका ही नहीं उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि अगर अगले साल चीनी का उत्पादन हम को बढ़ाना है तो उसको बढ़ाने के लिए हमें ऐक्साइज ड्यूटी में छूट मिलनी चाहिए। आज श्रीमन्, जो हमारी नीति चली आ रही है, जो खाद्यान्न के बारे में हमारी नीति है, वह आपके सामने है—आज प्रोडक्शन और डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन में किसी तरह का कोई समन्वय नहीं है, आज हमारे इण्डस्ट्रियल और एग्रीकल्चरल गुड्स में किसी तरह का कोई समन्वय नहीं है, हमें कहीं न कहीं इन चीजों में समन्वय रखना पड़ेगा। सोशलिस्ट कन्ट्रीज में भी मैंने देखा है, प्राइस कमीशन बनाये आने हैं, क्राप के पहले प्राइस कमीशन सारी क्राप की स्थिति की जांच करता है और एक प्राइम पालिसी निश्चित करता है। हमारे यहाँ अभी बताया गया है कि पिछले 6-7 साल से हमारी कोई प्राइस पालिसी फिक्स नहीं हो सकी। आज मैं कहना चाहता हूँ—हमारे

प्लानिंग मिनिस्टर साहब बैठे हुए हैं—कल ही इन्होंने एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में कहा था—40 से 50 परसेंट तक हमारे यहाँ ऐसे लोग हैं जिनकी आमदनी बड़ी मिनिमम है, जिनकी हालत बड़ी खराब है। आज की तरह से कन्स्यूमर इण्डेक्स बढ़ता चला जा रहा है, मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ, यदि इसी प्रकार से प्राइस-राईज होती गई तो फिर क्या स्थिति होगी? चीनी के क्षेत्र में हम आत्मनिर्भर हुए, माननीय मंत्री ने इसी सदन में 13 दिसम्बर, 1971 को अपना एक स्टेटमेंट पढ़ा, जिसमें उन्होंने चीनी के क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भरता की बात की, मैं उन्हीं के स्टेटमेंट से पढ़ कर सुनाता हूँ—

"Discussions were therefore held with the representatives of the industry both in the joint stock and the co-operative sectors. It was emphasised that in the current situation there was an imperative need to hold the sugar price line and at the same time to ensure payment of a higher caneprice to the growers than the minimum fixed by the Government so that sugar production that has declined in 1969-70 may pick up again in 1972-73."

श्रीमन्, क्या हुआ? आप का जो प्रोडक्शन का टारगेट था, वह टारगेट 35 लाख टन हो गया, 40 लाख टन से गिर कर और दूसरे साल, आज जिस तरह का झूट है, मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ 30 या 31 लाख टन ही रह जाएगा या जो भी कदम आप प्रपोज करें। लेकिन मैं इस गदन में आज हम बात को कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर अगले साल के लिए आप 30 की शुगर पालिसी ठीक नहीं रखी तो आप 30 लाख टन भी चीनी पा जायें, मुझे इसमें सन्देह है। अगर आपने केन-प्रोक्स को इन्सेंटिव नहीं दिया, अगर उनके भाव को ठीक करने के लिए आपने कोई पालिसी निर्धारित नहीं की तो आप का प्रोडक्शन काफी कम हो जाएगा, 30 लाख टन चीनी पाना भी मुश्किल हो जाएगा।

14 hrs.

शुगर की आज जो हालत है—मैंने पिछले सेशन में भी कहा था—5 रुपये किसी चीनी बिकेनी, आज देख लीजिए, 4 रुपये किसी चीनी बिक रही है। माननीय मंत्री जी के उक्त समय

कहा था कि 2 रुपये किलो से ज्यादा चीनी नहीं बिकने देंगे, लेकिन आज 4 रुपये किलो चीनी बिकने लगी है। मैं उसी के स्टेटमेंट को पढ़ कर सुनाना हूँ—

"Imperative need to hold the sugar price line "

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU On a point of order Did that price include the donation to the Congress election fund ? (*Interruptions*)

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे It is donation to CP (M) fund. मैं आपसे यही निवेदन कर रहा था कि आपने पिछले मंत्र में यही कहा था कि 2 रुपया किलो चीनी देंगे उसके ऊपर एक्ससाइज और आक्टूय इयूटी जो लगेगी, उसको लेकर 2 रुपये कुछ पैसे से ज्यादा चीनी नहीं मिलेगी, लेकिन 4 रुपये किलो से ज्यादा पर चीनी मिलने लगी है और दिवाली तक तो 5 रुपये से कम नहीं मिलेगी। आप का कोई स्टॉक नहीं रह गया है, आप कोई पालिसी नहीं बनला रहे हैं हमारे पास इतना स्टॉक जमा है, सिर्फ इतना भी नहीं बता पा रहे हैं।

शुगर मिल ओनर्स एसोसिएशन कहती है— 265 रुपये क्विंटल पर अगर आप को चीनी खरीदनी है तो मुझसे खरीद लीजिये, मैं आपको खुले आम देने के लिए तैयार हूँ। सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट में जो फूड विभाग के अधिकारी बैठे हुए हैं, वे गवर्नमेंट पर प्रभाव डालने के लिए बैठे हुए हैं कि किसी तरह से चीनी 265 रुपये क्विंटल में खरीद ली जाए। मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट आफ इण्डिया को अपनी कोई फूड पालिसी बनानी चाहिये, जो उसकी डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन मशीनरी है, उसको इफेक्टिव बनाना चाहिये, कन्स्यूमर प्राइसेज को अपने कंट्रोल में लाना चाहिये, और यह काम चीनी मिलों के राष्ट्रीयकरण किए बिना बर नहीं हो सकता, वही एक ऐसी नीति है जो चीनी के मामले में हमारे देश को बायस निर्भर बना पावनी तथा चीजों का दाम नियंत्रित कर सकेगी।

इन शब्दों के साथ, उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप का आभारी हूँ आपने मुझे समय दिया और मैं अपने विचार प्रकट कर सका।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) Mr Deputy Speaker, may I at the outset make a submission that I require a little time because I wish to quote what the hon Prime Minister has said so many times

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER You have been given your party's time

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU And also time for my substitute motion

Your presence encourages me so much that sometimes I cannot limit myself

The Congress Party has created an unprecedented crisis in the country It is the known outcome of the capitalist path of development This price crisis is only a part of the general crisis that is engulfing us, namely the economic crisis in foreign trade, lower earnings, stagnation in industry, low food crops and simultaneously drum beating about the green revolution, unemployment, black money and erosion of the Indian rupee They have talked about restrictions on some items which are exported abroad That will mean less offering for local consumption and further rise in prices Is that what they have in mind ?

I will now come to the magnitude of the price rise The hon speaker talked about whole-sale price This morning at 10 O'clock from the Director of the Consumers' Council, I have collected the figures It is no use carrying coal to New Castle because everybody knows where the shoe pinches The price of *Dal chana* rose from Rs 1 12 to Rs 1 80 The price of *Dal Moong sabat* rose from Rs 2 10 to Rs 3 20 The price of *Dal Urd* rose from Rs 2 50 to Rs 4 10 and so on In actual fact, the price rise in the food front at the last retail counter from where the poor house-wife makes the purchases is even up to 150 per cent About sugar, the House knows the position The price of basmati rice has gone up to Rs 4 a kilo Cloth prices have gone up by 50 per cent I am quoting from the newspaper When sugar price has gone up, Mrs Gandhi said, stop consuming sugar. Now when the prices of dhotis and saris have gone

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up so much, what will she say? Stop consuming dhotis and saris and go about in birthday costumes? That is what it comes to.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): Is that parliamentary? I do not think the hon. member meant what he said

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Don't make it worse.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am not yielding.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: The only point the Prime Minister made about the situation...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Ganesh will have his right to reply. He may note down all these points and reply at the end. Why interrupt the hon. member and give him more opportunity?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: He mentioned about birthday costumes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I do not know whether it is parliamentary or not I think there is nothing wrong in it. It will be unparliamentary if you make it too explicit.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Coming to coke, an essential fuel item, at places its price has gone up by 250 per cent. Coming to steel, that is the Government's doing. HISCO was taken over because the man refused to contribute black money to the election fund. I will say that when the occasion comes

It is partly the creation of the government directly and partly the outcome of collaborative action. The building materials have also recorded a rise of not less than 200 to 300 per cent. How are you going to keep to the estimates for the coming plan at the rate that you have taken when the rise has gone beyond your control?

The hon. Prime Minister has made a wonderful speech, where she used some English idioms like front of brass and feet of clay. In her case I would use expressions like, little knowledge is dangerous and empty vessels sound much. She has said:

"While admitting that industrial production was lagging, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi today held out the hope that the economy would regain its momentum. She says it is partly due to seasonal factors such as late start of the monsoon this year..."

What an unmixed untruth!

Now I am going to quote from *Tribune* a very respected paper. It says:

"International Labour Office data reveal that in July 1971 the general price index had risen by 90% in India while the corresponding percentages for some other countries were: Kenya 18.6, Sri Lanka 29.5, Thailand 19.1, Iran 17, Mexico 28.4 and Pakistan 45.1. The figures for the developed countries reflect the same range: Canada 30.2, the USA 32.4, Australia 32.5. The highest price abroad has been in Japan 52.8, but that country's economy stands in a class apart."

There is a wonderful feature article in *The Statesman* which says:

"Soon after the Prime Minister's confident claim at her press conference that prices were falling the official wholesale index crossed the 200 mark and the consumer index registered a 10-point jump...The 'hold the price line' slogan that spouts like a fresh spring from most Ministerial lips is age old. Six years ago, when in the wake of devaluation prices made a similar spectacular spurt (this year prices of food articles are up by 15% according to the wholesale index much more in reality), they were saying the same thing. The only concrete measure that resulted then was the opening of a chain of Super Bazaars which for various reasons never got beyond the symbolic stage."

Then I come to the *Times of India*. It is not the statement of CPM; we are only watching, it says:

"The government's plea that the rise in prices, especially of the foodgrains, is due to seasonal factors is being dismissed as 'absurd' by economic experts in close touch with the price situation. As regards foodgrains, it is pointed that the wholesale

prices of wheat were actually lower between April and October last year...These economists are of the view that the sharp rise in the prices...is directly due to the short-fall in production and the progressive weakening of the public distribution system in respect of almost all foodgrains.

For instance, the releases of foodgrains, mainly wheat and rice, by the Central and state Governments for sale through fair price shops have steadily declined from 9.6 million tonnes in 1969 to 8.9 million tonnes in 1970 and further 7.7 million tonnes in 1971."

The Prime Minister talked about developing economics where there will be a certain price rise. She does not know what she is talking about. I hope she is not copying some other economists, like last time when she quietly quoted some Pakistani economists, it is learnt.

I want to ask : is it not a fact that our *Per capita* income is the lowest in the world, only 73 dollars ? What is she talking about when she is comparing our price rise with the position in America ? If there is a price rise in our country, it takes away the entire earning of an average citizen and enough is not left even for a meal.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : 2 per cent less in the United States means a cup of coffee less there. This is a very serious debate. You are reading the *Times of India* to me. Please say something original. I want to learn from you.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I am not quite so brilliant as you are.

This is what is stated in the Third Plan on p. 126. It says :

"There are, on the other hand, factors that tend to moderate these upward pressures. To the extent that there are unused resources that can be drawn upon and in so far as in certain sectors such as agriculture, an increase in production could be secured quickly with comparatively small investment, the expansionary pressures just mentioned may be softened. Then, again some of the investment made earlier add to current output, and as the level of technology and organisational

efficiency improve, relatively large increases in output could be secured without a proportionate increase in costs."

I only wish to draw Mr. Ganesh's attention to it.

I suspected, firstly, Mrs. Gandhi. But I regret to say even her advisers have misled her. There are two varieties, either half-baked type of pundits that she keeps or others who are motivated in their utterances. Today, unfortunately, there is no relation between the feelings they exhibit and the reality. This is done to cheat the Government employees and other employees who claim dearness allowance.

Here is a very useful journal *Economic and Political Weekly* in which there is an article entitled "Bread or Circuses ?" It says :

"...in the week ending June 17, the wholesale price index for foodgrains was a neat 15 per cent higher than what it was a year ago. At the retail level—never mind the lack of official data, you just have to talk to an assortment of non-chic housewives to find—the rise is much steeper."

I would only request Mr. Ganesh to read this wonderful article "Bread or Circuses ?" in the *Economic and Political Weekly* dated July 15, 1972.

They always preach sermons as a preface to each Plan. But the outcome is just the opposite. When there was an increase of 50 points, they kept quiet. But when there is a drop of 2 points in the wholesale price index, they go on drum-beating it.

Before this drought, there was a shortfall of 15 million tonnes in foodgrains production. It is because they are wholly dependent on rainfall. All this myth of green revolution has really shown its teeth. West Bengal alone have lost out of the main paddy crop, 84 per cent of the crop and the other crop by 50 per cent.

This is what the *Economic Survey* for the year 1971-72 says :

"The other important aspect of increasing production of foodgrains impinges upon the monetary sector of the economy inasmuch as the demand for funds for pro-

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curement operations has increased sharply. Thus outstanding advances against foodgrains reached the level of Rs. 431 crores towards the end of July, 1971."

This is your publication, the *Economic Survey* for 1971-72.

Then, about deficit financing, between 1960-61 and 1970-71, the increase in money supply was of the order of 140 per cent. As against this, the real national income rose by 4½ per cent. This led to a sharp spurt in prices. The increase in the wholesale prices was to the extent of 81 per cent during the same period. That is about the deficit financing. On deficit financing, there is an article :

"This rose to a colossal Rs. 819 crores which was as much as Rs. 212 crores more than in the previous busy season. In other words, the Government borrowed this much more for what was largely non-productive expenditure from the banks in addition to the three heavy doses of additional taxation administered during the past 12 months or so."

Then I come to indirect taxes. They have been increasing the quantity of indirect taxes year after year. I do not want to tax your mind by taking the time of the House for giving the figures. It is really a disgraceful thing that the Government has not got a clue of the actions they take. Every year, since 1952, the indirect taxation has been increasing by leaps and bounds.

What about the holding power? There is a very interesting feature article written by the gentleman who was the Principal Economic Adviser to the Prime Minister till last month—the gentleman who was the Chairman of the Agricultural Prices Commission, Dr. Ashok Mitra. He has said :

"This is where doubts creep in. How is it that during the past three years even as prices of foodgrains moved up almost inexorably, distribution through ration and fair price shops actually declined? It was 9.6 million tonnes in 1969, 8.9 million tonnes in 1970 and 7.7 million

tonnes in 1971. Obviously there is serious mismatching between the supplies offered through the public distribution system and the demand for foodgrains emanating from the mass of the community. The entire rationale of the public distribution would seem to have turned topsy-turvy in recent years."

About sugar, sugar has become a poison to this country because they are hand in glove with the sugar magnates for reasons known to each and every person in this House. We understand that, while they have exported sugar at a price of 94 paise per kilo, here the man whose *per capita* income is the lowest is paying Rs. 4 per kilo. I will read out one or two things :

"Sugar was sold in foreign markets at an average price of 94 paise per kilo .."

When there was a surplus production of sugar, the import of 5 lakh tonnes of sugar should have been set aside as buffer stock. They have made a mess of the whole thing.

About the value of the rupee, Mr. Sachin Chowdhury, on 12th July 1960, in order to justify devaluation, had said that the Indian rupee as on that date had come down by 80 paise. That means, you were left with only 20 paise in a rupee in your hand. And the Indian rupee today is, in fact, not more than 10 paise. That is what you have done during the last 25 years in this country.

The worst part is the black money. It is said that the total accumulation of black money today is to the tune of Rs. 7500 crores. In this Wanchoo Committee's final report, Dr. Dandekar, an eminent economist, said, 'For 1965-66, my estimate of the black income is of the order of Rs. 2350 crores as against Rs. 1216 crores mentioned in the report.' Sir, that is what it is.

Let us take the cat out of the bag. The Interim Report submitted by the Wanchoo Committee in the month of November, 12th of November 1970, one year and eight months ago, made specific recommendations. I have got a true copy of the original report and that, I want to lay on the Table of the House, for which I have given a written notice. It says...

AN HON. MEMBER : It may be circulated to members.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I will. "We decided..."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I can only say that it can be laid only with my permission.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I will. It says :

"We decided, therefore, to address ourselves to the task of making an interim report on matters which call for urgent remedial action and could not wait until our final report. One subject which we felt needed immediate attention was that of black money as it has been eating into the vitals of the economy."

Sir, they said :

"It is a parallel economy operating on black money, prevalence of on-money payments, speculation and hoarding of essential commodities, profiteering and and price rise."

They have gone in detail.

"After careful consideration, we have come to the conclusion that some radical steps will have to be taken immediately if the problem is to be tackled effectively. In this interim report we, therefore, recommend the following three measures :

- (1) demonetisation,
- (2) a ceiling on cash and cash holdings, and
- (3) acquisition of immoveable property in case of underestimation of the purchase consideration."

These are the recommendations for immediate action. But since 1970 November, Mrs. Gandhi had to contest two elections and we know how very cadre based a Party she has got. The cadre is the silver and the silver has been found. What silver? Nobody can give you white silver. This was black money. With your permission, Sir, I lay on the Table,

as I have given you notice, a true copy of the Wanchoo Committee's interim report [Placed in Library. See No. LT—3411/72.]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Order, please. You hand it over to me for my inspection. There is no question of laying it on the Table.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I have given you notice in writing under Rule 369.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Do you inspect everything that is laid on the Table during the Zero Hour?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Sir, there is a ruling given by Sardar Hukum Singh on 26th February 1965 which clearly says that if it is authenticated, the Member can lay it on the Table. I have given you prior written notice under Rule 369. Hon Members can read it. I lay it on the Table...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Order, please. One minute. I will meet your point.

SHRI SEZHIYAN : It is not a secret document.

SHRI R. V. BADE (Khargone) : He has read it in the House

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is a different matter. Order, please... (Interruptions) Order, please. Laying it on the Table is different from reading. He can read it from anywhere.

Now, he has quoted Rule 369. He says he has given a notice. I have seen it, only five or six minutes ago. You have given that notice. But I have not had an opportunity to look through the document.

Now, I have to look to the Directions of the Speaker. Direction 118 says very clearly :

"If a private member desires to lay a paper or document on the Table of the House, he shall supply a copy thereof to the Speaker in advance..."

which you have not done... (Interruptions) Order, please.

"...so as to enable him to decide whether

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

permission should be given to lay the paper or document on the Table..."

Now, I have not had an opportunity to look into the document. Therefore, I am not allowing you to lay it on the Table. I want you to hand it over to me for my inspection and a decision will be made after that...
(Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Arising out of what you have said, Rule 369 which cannot be superseded by a Speaker's Direction, says :

- (1) "A paper or document to be laid on the Table shall be duly authenticated by the Member presenting it.
- (2) All papers and documents laid on the Table shall be considered public."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Kindly read Rule 389 for the benefit of the House.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Why, Sir ? It is not convenient for me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please go to the substance of your debate.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I have laid it on the Table.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, not without my permission.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I am sorry, this rule does not give you the authority ; you cannot act beyond your jurisdiction.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In order that there must be a clear understanding I would say this. This Rule 369 only says this, that, when it is laid, it must be authenticated.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I am really surprised that you have taken summary power under Rule 389.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Whether a paper is to be laid or not is for the Speaker to decide. Rule 389 says very clearly that where a thing is not put there clearly under the rules, it has to be regulated by the direction of the Speaker. I have read out the

Direction of the Speaker which has been accepted by the House.

I request you : Please go to the substance of your debate and not waste time on this procedural matter.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : The hon Member was referring to the interim report. Subject to correction, I would say, this report has not yet been made public. If he is referring to the Wanchoo Commission Report, I would say, this is already under the consideration of the Government. Very soon, before the end of this year, Government hopes to bring forward a comprehensive legislation on that...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Arising out of what the hon. Lady member said...

AN HON. MEMBER : Lady Minister.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : I do not cease to be a Member.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : She is still a Member. Arising of what she pointed out just now, may I point out this ? The final report was submitted long after this interim report. You found it very convenient to publish the final report, but you did not do it in respect of the interim report, because there were certain findings which hurt you.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : That interim report has not been made public. So, my point is correct.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Curbing black money hurts the Government in its political activities. They did not, they could not, comply with the recommendations of the interim report of the Wanchoo Committee. They had kept it as a secret document. They had not published it. Not only that, Sir. They had sent three officers from the Ministry of Finance, which included the Governor of the Reserve Bank, to the Wanchoo Committee to request them : 'Do not give details of the interim report in the final report.' First they made a request, 'Please do not submit the report, withdraw it.' but they declined. When they declined, they were told, 'Please do not give the details of the interim report in the final report'.

This Government is so anxious to cover the blackmarketeers, black-money owners, hoarders, smugglers and profiteers that they cannot raise their fingers against those who are causing a crisis to the country, making life impossible for the common man. This Government needs to be condemned outright. Sir, I have no demands to make because this Government is totally and utterly incapable of taking any measures which can do good to the common man, to the working man.

With these words I close.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA (Barmer) : The unusual price rise that the country is faced with today is causing great concern to all of us. It is an immediate issue. I need not go into the basic economic theories and policies which are not responsible for the price rise, whether a reversal in the policy is warranted or not. Today, right now, the working people of the country are faced with this great problem. And, before I put forward certain proposals for immediate execution, I would ask the Government not to do certain things.

Sir, it is said that some representatives of big business houses have submitted a Memorandum to the Government Demanding certain measures, certain reversal of basic policies to which this Government is committed.

SHRI PILOO MODY : To increase production.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : Whenever certain stresses and strains develop in our economy, whenever the economy passes through some critical periods, these sharks demand their pound of flesh. For example, they demand that the declared policy of Government to convert loans into equity should be denounced and given up. They demand for example that the credit squeeze must be relaxed. For example, they demand that the restrictions on big monopolies must be relaxed. These very big business-houses and monopoly houses are responsible for price rise...

SHRI PILOO MODY: Aha, ha ! (*Laughter*)

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : I shall come to that. I shall see who has the last laugh.

If the basic policies of Government are surrendered and there is a reversal of these declared policies, the result would be not increase in production but further decrease in production, not a decline in prices but a further rise in prices.

Take, for example, the case of the manufacturing items. There is a total anarchy that prevails in the manufacturing world. How many soaps does Shri Piloo Mody need for washing his clothes and his body ?

SHRI PILOO MODY : More than my hon. friend does.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : There are 10,000 varieties of them. Does he need all these varieties ? Again, how many tooth-pastes does he need ? How many tooth-brushes does he need ? How many varieties of cloth does he need ? There are one lakh varieties of cloth in this country...

SHRI PILOO MODY : Does he want that everybody should be dressed like Mao ?

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : It is this jungle which has been responsible for these continuously rising prices. If each variety is produced on a small scale, then it would cost less. But the Delhi cloth goes to Bombay and the Bombay cloth comes to Delhi and there is cross-transport and ultimately the consumer suffers. Shri Piloo Mody often sheds tears for the consumer...

AN HON MEMBER : Crocodile tears.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Always.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): He is shedding crocodile tears always.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : There is total anarchy in the manufacturing world, as I said earlier. Though the production has gone down, have the profits of the big business houses gone down ? No, they have increased. The profitability has increased and the prices have increased. So, it is at the cost of the consumer that these big business-houses make fabulous profits. In the long run consumer industries will have to be brought under public

[Shri Amrit Nahata]

control. But meanwhile, what prevents the Government from immediately introducing rigid standardisation in the consumer articles of daily use? In Japan, only 10,000 varieties of cloth have been allowed, and no other variety can be produced. Japan is not a socialist country. This is not regimentation ..

SHRI PILOO MODY : What about China ?

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : It is still less, and the prices have not risen there.

SHRI PILOO MODY : What about the Soviet Union ?

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : It is still more, but the prices have not risen. It is more than in China but less than in Japan

SHRI PILOO MODY : He should know.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : I know it. It is one of the essential things that if the prices have to be pegged, then some element of standardisation should be introduced in the consumer articles of daily necessity

Similarly, I would request Government which is committed to unleashing an economy of austerity in our country to take some concrete measures in that direction. Inflation always leads to ostentation. Inflation always leads to a great deal of concentration of money in a few hands, and it is this money which is spent for ostentatious living, splendour and luxury articles. Though the common necessities of daily life are not available, there is no dearth of luxury articles. There are any number of pressure cookers, refrigerators, air conditioners and all that. Some rigid, stern measures must be taken to curb conspicuous consumption which is primarily responsible for this spurt in prices. Whether it is feasting or whether it is marriage or a consumption of luxury articles, there should be moratorium on further increase in the production of luxury articles, articles which are non-essential. Instead, whatever capital is available must be diverted to increasing the production of essential articles.

Whether the Wanchoo Commission had proposed demonetisation in their interim report or not, I entirely agree—and it is a known fact—

that one of the major factors responsible for this stupendous rise in prices is the terrific inflation in the economy. Whether it was necessary or not, is a different matter. I personally think it was necessary. Government could not have faced the serious crises we had to face without resorting to some element of inflation. With the Bangla Desh crisis, the war and other factors and the hardships faced by States, it was necessary. But any government which is compelled to resort to inflation immediately follows it up by rigid and strict deflationary measures. One of the most important of such measures would be demonetisation. Either it will draw out the black money or it will freeze it. Thereby consumption of non-essential articles would be curbed, conspicuous consumption would go down.

Moreover, how do our prices behave? They behave in a most erratic manner. There is no rationale behind it.

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI : Like the Government.

SHRI AMRIT NAHTA : Like the Jan Sangh. Once it started supporting socialist measures. But the other day when it found that the party was disintegrating, they reversed their stand. They seized upon the Simla agreement and shouted.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Shri Malhotra has issued a statement criticising the Delhi administration for arresting boarders.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : Yes.

These prices behave in a very sensitive way. They have a runaway tendency. If tobacco is taxed, vegetable prices also go up. When such conditions prevail, a shock treatment should be given. One of the major shock treatments to be administered to prices would be demonetisation. In this psychology of scarcity, shortages and runaway prices, a shock treatment essential in the matter of money supply is demonetisation.

Another shock treatment is also called for. That is a human shock treatment. Let one thousand profiteers, hoarders and black-marketeers be, if not hanged, at least put behind bars.

SHRI PILOO MODY : His Government will never do it. They are their supporters.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : If Government come down on them with a heavy hand, they will shake and tremble in their shoes.

SHRI PILOO MODY : What is the use of making such brave statements? Let his Government put at least 10 people behind bars.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : When five are arrested, the Jan Sangh shouts against the arrests. Today if the Jan Sangh comes out on the side of the profiteers, hoarders and blackmarketeers, it will have no place among the Indian people; it will be buried for ever.

This is the right psychological moment when the Central Government should direct the State to take very rigid and drastic action. The police is so efficient in tracking down anti-national elements, spies and Naxalites. Why cannot it be equally efficient and show the same determination in tracking down and bringing to book hoarders? Once Shri Chavan confessed in this House that economic offences are the most heinous offences. This must be shown in practice, that the Government do realise that economic offences are the most heinous offences and such offenders are given the stringent treatment that the situation demands.

I have one more point to make.

This approach towards the five year Plan must be reconsidered. This approach is highly inflationary. The entire investment that is proposed in the Plan is inflationary, and not productive. Mr. Ganesh raised a very pertinent question: how do we balance and reconcile massive investment and inflation? In our developing economy, massive investment for growth has to be balanced between the long gestation investments and short gestation investments, which means that in the public sector the Government must not only occupy the commanding heights of the economy but must also occupy the lucrative heights of the economy. Those heights which give profits, those sectors of the economy, must also be commanded and once the investment is spread out between the long gestation period and

the short gestation period, I mean the basic key industries which lay the foundation for a sound economy, and also those industries which give immediate results and immediate profits, this massive investment for growth will not lead to inflationary pressures and will not lead to rise in prices.

Lastly, there is one mysterious entity known as the Tariff Commission. When a manufacturer goes to the Tariff Commission and says, "Look, under these circumstances, you must allow us a five per cent rise in the price," the Tariff Commission says, "You do not know your own conditions; you must increase your price not by five per cent but by 10 per cent." The Tariff Commission has been considerably responsible for giving a very long rope not for hanging these black-marketeers and speculators but for raising the prices. This Tariff Commission must be reconstituted. It must be composed of people who have some sentiment, some responsiveness, some feeling of sympathy for the common man of this country.

If these immediate measures are taken on a war-footing, as it is said, with determination, I am sure immediately we can tide over this period of crisis.

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी (साजापुर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, लगातार बढ़ती हुई कीमतों पर यह पहली बार सदन में चर्चा नहीं हो रही है। स्वयं वित्त मंत्री इस बात को स्वीकार करते हैं कि कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं और पिछले दिनों तो बहुत बढ़ी हैं। जबसे अपने देश में नियोजन शुरू हुआ है, हर नियोजन के प्रारम्भ में कहा जाता था कि यह पंचवर्षीय योजना समाप्त होने के बाद कीमतें स्थिर होंगी, कीमतें नीचे आवेंगी कहा जाता था—We hold the price line. आज इतने सालों के बाद लगना है—hold the price line. नहीं बल्कि behold the price line. अब यह क्यों होता है? अभी मैंने सम्मानित सदस्य का भाषण सुना, उनका हमारे ऊपर आरोप था कि वह कुछ करना चाहते हैं और जनसंघ करने नहीं देता है। इसलिए मैं सम्मानित सदस्य की जानकारी के लिए कुछ बताना चाहता हूँ। आजादी आते ही सन् 1948 में ही सबसे पहले प्रधान मंत्री श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू ने घोषणा की थी कि सब बाजारों

[श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी]
आई हुई है, अब यहां पर कोई ब्लैक-मार्केटिंग करेगा तो he will be hanged by the nearest tree. । यह सन् 1946 की बात है when Jan Sangh did not exist यह मैं नाहाटा जी की जानकारी के लिए दे रहा हूँ। बाद में अन्न मंत्री मुशी जी को लगा नेहरू जी ने घोषणा की है, पेडो पर फांसी लगानी होगी और पेडो की कमी होगी इसलिए बनमहोन्मव का कार्यक्रम लेकर जहां तहां पेड लगाने गए।... (व्यवधान)... Is there a single hoarder or black-marketeer or smuggler being hanged by the nearest tree? (व्यवधान)... अभी तो मैंने शुरू किया है। (Interruption)

SHRI K. R. GANASH : I cannot arrest him also. That is my problem. He goes to the High Court ; he goes to the Supreme Court

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : जो कीमतों की समस्या हैं उनमें आवश्यकता और पूर्ति, यह दो बातें आती हैं। जिन चीजों की जरूरत है उन चीजों का उत्पादन है या नहीं ? जिन चीजों की जरूरत है उनको प्राप्त करने की क्षमता है या नहीं—यह दो चीजें हैं।

सिर्फ यह कहने से काम नहीं चलेगा कि जो कोई उत्पादन करता है उसी की कीमत बढ़ती है। पोस्ट आफिस का कार्ड है, मैं जब बचपन में था तब पोस्ट कार्ड एक पैसे में मिलता था, लेकिन आज 10 पैसे में मिलता है। यह पोस्ट मास्टर की ग्रांडिन्ग टेन्डेंसी की वजह से तो कार्ड की कीमत नहीं बढ़ी। अब एक कार्ड बनाने में जो कागज लगता है.....

श्री आर० डी० मंडारे : टैक्सेशन दूसरी बात है, और प्राइमेज की दूसरी बात है।

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : वही मैं कह रहा था कि जो सरकार के हाथों में चीजें हैं उन की जब कीमत बढ़ती है तो उनका भी विचार करना पड़ेगा कि आखिर क्यों कीमत बढ़ गयी।

श्री अशुत नरहड्डा : एक चीज प्राइस होती है, और रेडम दूसरी चीज होती है। आप पोस्टक

रेडम की बात कर रहे हैं। प्राइसेज की बात कीजिए।

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : तो मैं यही कह रहा हूँ कि आखिर आप पोस्ट कार्ड छापते हैं, किस हिमाय से छापते हैं ? (व्यवधान) सरकार जो भी चीज तय करती है वह पूरी नहीं करती। इसलिए मेरा सुझाव है कि आज जो कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं इनके लिए दो उपाय हैं। एक तो दूरगामी है और दूसरा तत्कालिक है जो कि आज करना है और दूसरा आगे चलकर आने वाले दिनों में। मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछता हूँ कि जब से हमने देन में नियोजन शुरू किया कुछ निश्चित लक्ष्य के हमने शुरू किया। उस लक्ष्य की पूर्ति यदि नहीं होती तो यह देखने का किन का काम है। रीए-प्रेजल कोई आज नहीं हो रहा है, तीसरी योजनाओं का भी रीएप्रेजल हो चुका है, इसका ही नहीं टोटल नैट इन्कम जो देश में बढ़ी है उसका वितरण कैसा हो रहा है, यह देखने के लिए महालनबीस कमेटी नियुक्त की गयी थी। उसकी रिपोर्ट आयी। उस पर कोई अमल हुआ क्या ? प्लान का हम रीएप्रेजल करते हैं किन्तु हमारी जो अपेक्षा होती है वंसी उपलब्धि क्यों नहीं होती है यह क्यों नहीं सोचते "यत्ने यदि न सिद्धयति कोऽप्य दोष"। दोष कहा है यह देखना बहुत आवश्यक है।

लगातार 1966 में हमारी रेल घाटा देती है। आज हम 1972 में पहुंचे, वास्तव में रेल घाटा क्यों दे, इसका कोई अन्वेषण किया ? जिस डिब्बे के अन्दर 42 लोगों के बैठने की जगह होती है वहां 42 टिकट के लिए ही तो रेलवे को मुनाफा होना चाहिए। जब कि उसी डिब्बे में 84 आदमी टिकट लेकर बैठते हैं फिर भी घाटा होता है। ऐसा क्यों है, कभी इस बारे में आप ने गम्भीरता से विचार किया है ? 1967 से लेकर 1972 तक पांच रेल मंत्री आये, पहले पुनाचा जी रहे, फिर राममुष्मणि सिंह जी आये, उनके बाद गुलजारी लाल नन्दा जी आए, उसके बाद हनुमन्तैया जी आये और अब पाई साहब हैं, याही पांच साल में पांच मंत्री बने किन्तु रेल का मामला बंसे ही चलता है। Ministers may come and Ministers

may go but the railways will go on for ever of the track. लगातार किया बढ़ाने जाने हो, यह नहीं देखते हो कि रेल में घाटा क्यों आता है। सरकार के हाथ में यदि कोई मोनोपली कन्मर्न है तो यह मतलब नहीं है कि उस घाटे को पूरा करने के लिए रेट बढ़ाये। आखिर उगवा अमर कौमन मैन पर ही होता है। अब दूध क्यों महंगा बिकना है ? बड़े-बड़े शहरों में ट्रेन से दूध आता है, और जब ट्रेन का बिराया बढ़ता है तो दूध भी महंगा हो जाता है, पेट्रोल का रेट महंगा होता है तो मोटरों से जो सब्जी आती है वह भी महंगी होती है। दम हाल पहले एक लिटर पेट्रोल का रेट 68 पैसे का मिलता था आज 1 48 पैसे का मिलता है। यह जो लगातार बढ़ोतरी होती चली जाती है इसका अमर हर चीज पर पड़ना है क्योंकि एक चीज दूसरे पर निर्भर रहती है। इसलिए दम पर कहीं न कहीं रोक लगानी चाहिए। यह बहुत आवश्यक है।

नियोजन के प्रारम्भ में वेदा का वर्ज 32 करोड़ था यह कोई नहीं कहता कि वर्ज न करो, लेकिन उसकी कुछ तो सीमा होनी चाहिए। आज वह वर्ज बढ़ने-बढ़ते 10 हजार करोड़ तक पहुँच गया है। कोमन की बान करते हैं, योजना के लिए पैसा कहा से आए ? बाहर से आए, बाहर से लो। वह लगातार बढ़ता जा रहा है। योजना के लिए पैसा कहाँ से आये नैट मेविंग से आये। सेविंग घटती चली जा रही है तो योजना के लिए पैसा टैक्स से आए। टैक्स लगातार बढ़ता जाता है, इन्डायरेक्ट टैक्स बढ़ता चला जाता है तो सामान्य आदमी पर बोझ बढ़ रहा है। इनका खर्च करके भी जो गैप है उसकी पूर्ति नहीं होनी इसलिए डेफिसिट फायनैसिंग आती है। और जैसा भगत जी ने कहा 900 करोड़ चाहिए, और बार-बार हम कहते हैं कि डिपेंडेंस ओन फोरैन एड जो है इसको कम करेंगे। लेकिन होता इसका उल्टा है। हर साल के आकड़े देखिये बढ़ता जाता है। जिस साल कहते हैं कि कम करेंगे उसी साल चार हजार करोड़ तक बढ़ता है। डेफिसिट फायनैसिंग कम करेंगे, लेकिन कम होने की बजाय बढ़ती है। बोरोइंग कम करेंगे, लेकिन बढ़ती है। टेक्सेशन नहीं करेंगे, लेकिन बढ़ती है। हर चीज जो कहते हैं नहीं करेंगे, वह करते हैं।

तो उस का जो नैट रिजल्ट है वह घटेगा कैसे यह हम को बताइये ? इसलिए जब तक इसको नहीं रोकेंगे तब तक हालत खराब ही होती जायेगी। क्या इनको कम करने की कोशिश की है यह कैसे होगी। तो वही होगी कि कैपिटल फोरमेशन कैसे होगा, अण्डर डेवलप्ड इकोनामी में हमको करना पड़ेगा। किन्तु यह करते समय केवल जब प्राइसेज पर चले जाने हैं तो प्रधान मंत्री एक समाधान लेनी हैं कि डेवलपिंग इकोनामी में प्राइसेज बढ़ती हैं। मैं मानता हूँ कि बढ़ती हैं। किन्तु जैसे चव्हाण जी ने आकड़े दिये, वह एक तरफा दिये कि रुपये की त्रय शक्ति घट गयी है। और यह कहते समय उन्होंने दूसरे देशों के आकड़े दिए कि जैसे हमारा रुपया घटा है 42 तक वैसे ही जर्मनी का मार्क घटा है, जापान का येन घटा है और इंग्लैंड का पाउण्ड घटा है। किन्तु हमारे रुपये को पिछले 25 साल में दो बार डिवैल्यूएशन का डोज देना पड़ा। जर्मनी ने मार्क फ्लोट किया, जापान ने येन फ्लोट किया, इंग्लैंड ने पाउण्ड फ्लोट किया तो कीमत नीचे आयी। वह इकोनामी को रिफ्लैक्ट करता है। तो चव्हाण जी ने यह क्यों नहीं बताया कि पर कैपिटल इनकम अमरीका में क्या है, जर्मनी में क्या है, जापान में क्या है, इंग्लैंड में क्या है ? सिर्फ यह कहने से काम थोड़ा ही चलेगा कि जो अनिन्फ्लेशन है यदि वह बढ़ती है, जैसे आज रुपया 42 तक नीचे आया किन्तु यदि लोगों की दुगनी, तिगनी आमदनी हो तो किसी को कोई दिक्कत नहीं होगी। सवाल यही है कि कीमतें यदि बढ़नी हैं तो मतलब यह है कि हमारे पास जो क्षमता है आवश्यक चीजें लेने की वह उतनी क्षमता पूरी नहीं कर सकता।

इन दो बातों पर ध्यान देना बहुत आवश्यक है—एक तो एप्रीकल्चर प्रोडक्शन है और दूसरा इन्डस्ट्रियल प्रोडक्शन। आज भी देश में सब से बड़ा उद्योग खेती है, इस को स्वीकार कर लेना चाहिए। आज भी 70 प्रतिशत लोग इसी पर निर्भर हैं। हम ने तीन योजनाओं को देखा और चौथी योजना को देखें तो कितना इम्बैलेंस है। इस उद्योग की तरफ हमने कितना ध्यान दिया है ? हमारे शास्त्रकारों ने बताया है कि भूमि को अद्वैत मात्रका रखनी

[श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी]

चाहिए। हमारे श्रद्धियों ने प्रार्थना की है "काले वर्षंतु पर्जन्यः" यह प्रार्थना क्यों की है ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He should try to conclude now

श्री जगन्नाथराव जोशी : : Sir, time has been extended. We have foregone the lunch hour. This is a very important debate. Please give me some more time. तो मेरा कहने का मतलब यह है कि जब हमने यह प्रार्थना की है "काले वर्षंतु पर्जन्यः" तो इसका मतलब होता है कि देश के अन्दर अकाल में वर्षा नहीं होती। किन्तु जब-जब होती है पानी का प्रबन्ध खेती के लिए, पानी का प्रबन्ध गाँवों के लिए करने की दृष्टि से जो योजना को अग्रक्रम मिलना चाहिए था वह आज नहीं मिला। इसलिए यदि एक महीना की बारिश में देर हो जाती है तो हमारे मारे आँकड़े गलत हो जाते हैं। इन्हीं मन्त्री महोदय ने तीन महीने पहले कहा था कि इस बार हम निर्यात करेंगे। और खटाक से एक महीना वर्षा में देर हो गई तो कहने लगे कि ऐसा लगता है कि निर्यात नहीं कर सकेंगे। अब ऐसा लगता है कि निर्यात तो छोड़ दीजिए, आवश्यकता की पूर्ति भी कर सकते हैं कि नहीं ? इन्टरनेशनल मार्केट में पल्सेज हैं, आयल सीड्स हैं, यह सस्ते हैं तो यह भी भगायेगे। अब क्या क्या भगायेगे ?

हमारे मित्र कह रहे थे कि जब तक हर चीज सरकार के हाथ में नहीं आती तब तक इस समस्या का हल नहीं होगा। मैं यह भी माने लेता हूँ, जैसे सुपर बाजार का उदाहरण दिया :

The Super Bazar is known not only for its super profits but it is known for its super losses.

और जैसे ही सुपर बाजार लीस देने लगा तो नाम बदल दिया—अपना बाजार हो गया। यानी घाटा अब होता है तो जनता का हो गया।

15 hrs.

स्टील एक बेसिक उद्योग है। इसको सरकार ने हाथ में लिया। क्या सरकार कह सकती है कि

यह सस्ता मिले ऐसा उत्पादन उसका हम ने किया है ? अभी अखबार में पढ़ा, कैबिनेट से यह तय किया कि 170 करोड़ रुपये स्टील इम्पोर्ट के लिए रिलीज किया, फाटिलाइजर के लिए 200 करोड़ रु० किया। काटन कोरपोरेशन होने के बाद काटन ज्यादा पैदा हो, इसका प्रयत्न होने के बाद भी 100 करोड़ रु० का काटन इम्पोर्ट करके सारी व्यवस्था पूर्ण करना चाहते हैं। यानी आल-रेडी देयर इज ए गैप, जिसके कारण इम्पोर्ट ज्यादा बढ़ायेगे। तो How are you going to meet the ever widening trade gap ? स्टील मिन्ज खड़ी करने के बाद भी सरकार समता स्टील उपलब्ध नहीं कर सकती है ऐसा क्यों ? जापान हमसे मैंगनीज और कच्चा लोहा लेता है और हम से लेकर भी वह अन्तर्गोष्ठीय बाजार में स्टील सस्ता बेचता है। हमारा स्टील क्यों महंगा है ? क्यों नहीं हमने सस्ता करने का प्रयास किया जाता ? सरकार ने अपने हाथ में स्टील कम्पनियों को लिया है। क्यों नहीं सरकार समता स्टील पैदा करके दे सकती है ? क्यों नहीं सरकार विश्वाम निर्माण कर सकती है ? आखिर बहुत सी चीजें विश्वाम पर भी होती हैं। जब युद्ध चलता है तब कीमते नहीं बढ़ती हैं ..

श्री शशि भूषण (दक्षिण-दिल्ली) . बिड़ला जी विश्वाम पैदा कर सकते हैं।

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी दो पैसे की दर से आप बिड़ला जी को बिजली सप्लाई करते हो जबकि किसान को आप 11-12 पैसे फी यूनिट के हिसाब से सप्लाई करते हैं। तमिलनाडु में उन्होंने बारह पैसा किया तो उनके खिलाफ आपने आन्दोलन किया। ट्रिडालियम को आप क्यों दो पैसे फी यूनिट के हिसाब से देते हैं।

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : वह भी बन्द करना चाहिए।

श्री जगन्नाथराव जोशी . Let us not be hypocrites.

किमानो की बहुत बात की जाती है। लेकिन किदवाई जी का फार्मूला क्या था ? उन्होंने गन्ने और शक्कर की कीमतों में समन्वय स्थापित किया

था। उसको आपने क्यों छोड़ दिया। आज आप कितनी जी के फार्मूले को स्वीकार करें तो किसान को गन्ने का मूल्य 18 रुपये और 20 रुपये क्विंटल मिलना चाहिए। लेकिन आप उनको न्यूनतम दाम देते हैं 7 रुपये 37 पैसे क्विंटल। वह घाटे में कैसे नहीं रहेगा? पाँडे जी सामने बैठे हुए हैं। उन्होंने यहाँ सदन में कहा था कि हमारे गाँवों से जो जलाने की लकड़ी होती है वह तेरह रुपए क्विंटल बिकती है। लकड़ी से गन्ना मरना है। यह कौन सी साइन्टिफिक इकोनोमी है? किसी भी अर्थ-व्यवस्था में गन्ने से लकड़ी मरनी होती है या गन्ना लकड़ी में मरना होता है और गुड़ से शक्कर महंगी होती है। लेकिन यहाँ उलटी बात है। यहाँ गन्ने से लकड़ी, शक्कर से गड़ और दूध से पानी महंगा है। वर्षा न होने की वजह से पीने का पानी नहीं मिलता है। पच्छिम पंजे पानी के एक घड़े से लेकर एक रुपया की घड़ा तक देना पड़ता है। हमारे देश से आज भी एक लाख गाँव हैं। वहाँ पीने का पानी नहीं है। वहाँ पानी चाहिए। यह हमारी गलत इकोनोमी है।

मैं समझता हूँ कि जब तक नियोजन को आप ग्राम आधार नहीं मानेंगे, ग्राम में योजना का काम शुरू नहीं करेगा, तब तक देश का भला नहीं हो सकेगा। साथ ही साथ खेती में सम्बन्धित उद्योगों को विकेंद्रित रूप में आपको चालू करना होगा और इन विकेंद्रित उद्योगों को आपको गाँवों में स्थापित करके गाँव वालों को काम देना होगा। साथ ही साथ देश का एक-एक पैसा आपको देश के हित में खर्च करना होगा। जब तक आप यह सब कुछ नहीं करेंगे, कुछ नहीं होगा। तत्कालिक उपाय की दृष्टि से आज सरकार के लिए यह सब करना आवश्यक है।

आप देखें कि 1951 में दस लाख टन शक्कर की पैदावार थी कि जबकि पिछली बार वह पैदावार 42 लाख टन हो गई। 1951 में हमारी आबादी 40 करोड़ थी जो आज 56 करोड़ है। दस लाख से बढ़कर पैदावार चालीस लाख टन हो गई, यानी चौगुनी हो गई लेकिन पापुलेशन द्वापदी छत्ती नहीं बढ़ी। 1947 में देश की आबादी

36 करोड़ थी और तब अनाज की उपज थी 5 करोड़ 30 लाख टन। आज आबादी 56 करोड़ है यानी यह द्वागुनी हो गई है और हमारा जो अनाज का उत्पादन है वह दुगुना हुआ है। उत्पादन 140 मिलियन टन है। तब कमी कैसे पैदा हो जाती है, यह समझ में नहीं आया है। मैं आकड़ों के जाल में नहीं फँसना चाहता हूँ। सीधी सी बात है। जो आवश्यक चीज़ है उनको खरीदने की क्षमता लोगों में कैसे हो, और उनकी माता में उत्पादन कैसा हो इन दोनों चीज़ों के बीच आपको समन्वय बिठाना होगा। जो स्थिति पैदा हुई है इसका सामना करने के लिए आपको बफर स्टॉक आफ आल एसेशियल कमोडिटीज़ करना होगा। मिर्फ अनाज की बात नहीं है। तमाम एसेशियल कमोडिटीज़ का बफर स्टॉक बनाना होगा और छोटे-मोटे गाँव तक में सस्ती दुकानों से सामान्य आदमी को ये चीज़ें उपलब्ध हो सके, ऐसी व्यवस्था आपको करनी होगी। यह कहने में काम नहीं चलेगा कि

Where is the administrative machinery? You are the ruling party. If you are not in a position to administer all these things, better get out.

मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज जो स्थिति पैदा हो गई है उसका सामना करने के लिए सरकार को रियलिस्टिक बनना होगा। अभी मैं बम्बई से आया वहाँ भूखमरी हुई है भूख से लोग मरे हैं। लेकिन मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि भूख से नहीं मरे। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब शीत लहर चलती है या जब गर्मी ज्यादा पड़ती है और खू चलती है तो लोग नहीं मरते हैं? अगर मरते हैं तो क्या उसकी वजह यह नहीं है कि उनके पास रहने के लिए घर नहीं होते हैं? वैसे ही खाने लायक अन्न न होने की वजह से लोग मरते हैं। यह कहने से काम नहीं चलेगा कि फार बांट आफ न्यूट्रिशंस डायट बे मर गए। आखिर वह मरता क्यों है? क्यों नहीं उसको खाना मिलता है। वह कभी इसकी परवाह नहीं करता है कि जो डायट उसको मिलनी है वह न्यूट्रिशंस है या नहीं है। उसको तो पेट भरने के लिए कुछ चाहिए। ऊँचे लेवल पर सरकार बन खंच को

[श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी]

गाली देकर होर्डर्ज को गाली देकर काम नहीं चला सकती है। गवर्नमेंट बिल हैव टू बिहैव।

श्री शशि भूषण : अब बिल्ली थैले से बाहर आई है।

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : आज जो स्थिति पैदा हो गई उसको वार्ड आफ करने के लिए All essential commodities have to be made available through the fair price shops at the lowest cost to the common man.

यह मशीनरी गवर्नमेंट ने तैयार करनी है। तब जाकर कुछ काम होगा। लॉग टर्म साल्यूशन की दृष्टि से केवल री-एप्रेजल करने से काम नहीं चलेगा। हमें एक उत्साही मंत्री योजना के लिए मिले हैं। हमारी उनसे बड़ी आशाएँ थीं। लेकिन वैनिश पावर्टी वाला जो नारा था वह वैनिश मिनिस्टर्ज में तबदील होता जाता है। एक जाता है दूसरा आता है। इसलिए मैं सरकार से कहता हूँ कि उसको कम्प्लेसेंट नहीं होना चाहिए, उसको वाकई में सीरियस होना चाहिए। उसको ऐसे कदम उठाने चाहियें जिनसे देश के सामने जो एक बड़ी समस्या है, भुखमरी की जो सम्भावना पैदा हो गई, वह टल सके, वह दूर हो सके।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in answer to the questions raised by the hon. Members opposite, the Finance Minister will reply because this is a very serious debate and we are seriously concerned about this problem.

I have ventured to intervene in this debate because I have been sitting and listening to various speeches that the hon. Members have made. There are certain points raised which I wish to emphasize. We on this side of the House also share the concern which the hon. Members on the other side have shown about the rise in prices. We are also very conscious of the fact that we have made a pledge to the people that prices have to be kept a stable and it is necessary to save the vulnerable sections of society so that there is no erosion of the income that they are having.

There has been unanimity on various facts that have been given. The fact and figures that the hon. Members have placed before this House are drawn from Government documents. The Government itself has given these facts. There is no doubt that there has been rise in prices; there is no doubt that the country is concerned about it and there is no doubt that it is creating hardship so far as the vulnerable sections of the society are concerned.

It may also be necessary to state that for some time, between June, 1970 and May, 1971, there has been some stability in the prices. We have gone through the entire period of last year. It is now for the last two or three months that this problem of rise in prices has come in this accentuated and exaggerated form. For the last two or three months, this has become a very serious problem which is causing a very serious concern.

It also appears that a psychosis that is being created, a climate that is being created, a trend that is being given to the debate, which has some sort of a motivation behind it. Without in any way minimising the seriousness of the price situation, it looks as if that it happens whenever Parliament opens, in every session of Parliament, there is one issue or the other. The Simla Accord issue misfired; it became a damn squib and some issue had to be found on which to concentrate...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI : Where is the motivation ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Kindly do not attribute any motive. This is a serious debate; it is a serious issue.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I am not imputing any motive...(Interruption)

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI : How can there be any motivation on such a serious issue ? (interruption)

SHRIMATI GAYATRI DEVI OF JAIPUR : I do not understand why he should attribute a motive to this particular debate ? Is it simply because members here felt that this issue should be discussed in this

House—this issue which is the most important concern of the whole country? The Prime Minister and the other Ministers were giving assurances that it was not a severe crisis and that prices would drop. But when prices had risen and all these things happened, we asked for a debate. There is no motive behind this. (*Interruption*)

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI : Why should he unnecessarily bring the Simla Agreement here? (*Interruption*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I think it is the duty of the Opposition to bring the issues before Parliament and it is for the Government to reply. There is no motive in it. That is how democracy functions, that is how Parliament functions.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : The Finance Minister, while replying to the House, very definitely indicated that this was a very serious problem. All the words that I have used have said that it is a very serious problem. We are seriously concerned with it. The Prime Minister called a meeting of the leaders of all Opposition parties to find out a solution for it.

When I say that there is motive in it, I am relating it to the kind of debate that this House has seen. If we have a debate in which we say that everything is wrong in this country, that all planning is wrong in this country, the economy of this country has gone wrong. (*Interruption*) I am trying to give some argument. It is one form of discussing a political question, and it is another form of discussing an economic question. Economic questions are very vital questions. They are related to various factors. There are innumerable factors that bring about an economic situation in which for a particular point of time an exaggerated form of a particular thing comes. My submission is that, as a result of certain drought conditions that were there, as a result of the amount of money that has been pumped during the last one year due to factors that we have discussed in this House—I have the necessary figures to show you (*Interruption*) an element of deficit financing which Government never envisaged had to be done because the Barga Desh crisis was there, it had to be done because drought conditions were there, it had to be done because flood conditions were there and so

many other conditions were there. It is a result of the shortage of industrial raw materials and various other factors that we have come to a position in which we are. (*Interruption*) I am making an honest attempt to bring into this debate certain economic realities which we cannot rule out.

Hon. Member of the C.P.M., Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu, ridiculed one statement made by the Prime Minister : 'If there is shortage of sugar, let us see that we consume less sugar.' You can interpret it in anyway. When the Food Minister intervenes in the debate and when he places before you the situation as far as sugarcane production is concerned, as far as sugar policy is concerned, as far as the conditions of sugar mills are concerned, then you will come to the conclusion that there is a position in this country in which either we consume less sugar or we spend our very scarce foreign exchange for getting sugar from outside. It has happened not only in this country. Take any socialist country. Whenever there is a shortage of any basic material, there, it is the responsibility of the leadership of that country. The Prime Minister does not say that we are not going to increase the acreage under sugar-cane, The Prime Minister does not say that we are not going to give an incentive price to the cane-grower which may be the basic question. Certain decisions have been taken.... (*Interruption*) Your economic theory is obsolete. It does not fit in this country. Let us try to find out something new..

SHRIMATI GAYATRI DEVI OF JAIPUR : Look at the results of your plans.

SHRI PILOO MODY : The Government has been told for the last five years that there is a need for increasing the floor price of sugar but the Government has refused.

SHRIMATI GAYATRI DEVI OF JAIPUR rose.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Madam, I am not yielding....(*Interruption*) I have a powerful voice.....

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI : For the information of the Minister, I don't take any sugar at all. I am a diabetic patient.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Very good. Therefore, this economy which has stood the Bangla Desh crisis... ..

SHRIMATI GAYATRI DEVI OF JAIPUR : Because money came from abroad, may be a little late.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : This economy which stood the Bangla Desh crisis, this economy which could bear a deficit financing of Rs. 500 or Rs. 650 crores, this economy which could bear the burden of 10 million refugees... (Interruptions) are we, as serious Members of Parliament, serious representatives of people, to conclude that it is within three months the whole collapse has taken place and the whole planning has become wrong and that the entire fiscal and monetary policies that the Government has pursued have gone wrong? Certain immediate problems have come to the fore. Those immediate problems will have to be tackled. To tackle those immediate problems at the highest level, the Prime Minister called a meeting of the Opposition leaders. The Government has been discussing this, certain very vital decisions have been taken by the Food Ministry not only in terms of public distribution and not only in terms of release of more stocks—already we are releasing some 6 to 7 lakhs tonnes of foodgrains for the vulnerable sections of the society.

Now, these decisions have been taken. These decisions which are going to immediately affect the immediate problem that we are facing will have to be implemented and the necessary machinery has to be created. There is no escape from the problem and I, as Minister, have got no hesitation in saying to the entire House, as far as this side of the House is concerned, that in a backward economy, in a country with 80% concentration of poverty, the poverty of the worst type, of which we are ashamed, there is no way out except to have a viable public distribution system. This is not** a small country, to have a public distribution system of the type of which we are thinking which should be able to cater to lakhs. Now, we have got one lakh of fair price shops which may have to be increased to a million to distribute the essential commodities and it will require a tremendous amount of efficiency of the administrative machinery.

Let us take one problem. Now, the fair-price shops have been criticised. I hold no brief for them. The Super Bazar has been criticised. I hold no brief for the Super Bazar, whatever mistakes there may be. The public distribution system has been criticised. I hold no brief for it.

It has been said that the public undertakings have got unutilised capacity and there is misplacement of resources. These are the very instruments by which a new policy can be built and has to be built and if there is something wrong in them, then we have to see that we take all steps to see that these things are removed because without a viable public distribution system, without even—I am not sure whether the Food Minister will agree with me—procurement and without a distribution system, it will not be possible for us to implement some of these policies.

Now, the point, Sir, is this : The Government is doing its best to see that these instruments, these machansms by which the present immediate problem can be solved, are built.

There is another problem. There are hoardings in this country. We have the Essential Commodities Act. That Act has got to be implemented, has got to be used, by the State Governments. The Delhi Administration has arrested some people. I don't know how many they have arrested. I think I will be expressing the wish of the House when I say that they should arrest more. What the representative of the Jan Sangh has said has come out in today's paper. He said, this arrest is wrong. This is one of the most contradictory policies and one of the most fallacious statements that have ever been said by a political leader who said, because there is no control, because there is no price control or law against hoarding, therefore, this attack or this arrest against grain dealers is wrong. We are living in a democracy; we know the difficulties and the compulsions of democracy; it is not possible to arrest anybody. I am in charge of the Income tax Department. I know that there are persons who are evading taxes; it is not possible to catch them, because the very next day they go to the court, they go to the Supreme Court or the High Court. With all the best available talent that we have got, we cannot catch them.

I ask the hon. Member : How much of jewellery is there in this country ? We have got to get that out. I want to catch that. I want a system and law by which we can catch that jewellery ..

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय मेरा प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर है। इस समय चर्चा चल रही है बटनी हुई चीमनों को रोकने के लिए, उसमें कोई व्यक्तिगत आरोप करे या व्यक्तिगत बात लाये, क्या आप इसको ठीक समझते हैं। जवाहरान की बात कहना—क्या ठीक है ?

SHRI PILOO MODY : Please ask the Minister to sit down ..

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Order. please. He has raised a point of order. He says, we are discussing prices, why does he say something on jewellery I don't know why it pinches him, unless he has jewellery himself.

SHRI PILOO MODY : I know how the Minister has been pinched because his own colleagues are evading taxes. How can he go and catch some of them, even senior to him ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is no point of order, that is all that I wish to say.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : May I, with your permission, take the House into confidence and say this ? Shri O. P. Behl, Executive Councillor of the Civil Supplies Department of the Delhi Administration has informed me that the prices of the following articles have come down : Sugar by Rs. 10 per quintal ; Wheat Rs. 5 per quintal ; Gram, Rs. 5 per quintal ; Khandasari Rs. 10 per quintal. I congratulate Shri Behl...

AN HON. MEMBER : That has come down after this debate ..

SHRI B. P. MAURYA (Hapur) : After the arrests

SHRI K. R. GANESH : If there are more raids, with our basic adherence to the policies of production and investment, with correct doses of deficit financing, with proper control and squeezing of the money supply and credit from the banks to speculative trade, we could march forward in the direction of realisation of our long-term basic aims. We know how many questions hon. Members asked for reply from the Finance Minister regarding cotton growers, saying, there credit has been squeezed. With all these policies, deterrent action is being taken.

I am quite sure that the Indian economy is sound, and the Indian economy has just stood the test of the Bangla Desh crisis. The Indian economy has been built on solid foundation, and the Indian economy will be able to stand up to the crisis. My intervention in the debate was only in order to bring out some of these basic economic realities of the situation.

SHRI PILOO MODY : He has not said a thing on the subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There are certain definite rules in this House that we should not refer to any friendly country discourteously. I think that in the context of the critical emerging international situation in South and South-East Asia, this is all the more undesirable. I think the hon. Minister somewhere in his speech made a remark about a friendly country. That is not desirable and it will be expunged.

AN HON. MEMBER : The hon. Minister's remarks are being expunged.

SHRI PILOO MODY : He has not even listened to your ruling. He was so full of noise that he was not even listening to your ruling.

SHRI K. R. GAENSH : I agree, Sir. I never meant it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am happy.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY (Kendrapara) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is very difficult to follow Shri K. R. Ganesh after the performance he has just given on the floor of the House. He spoke on everything else from A to Z except on the price situation which has been agitating the minds of not only the Members of this House but also of this whole country. In all fairness and in all humility, I should submit that the Finance Ministers ought to have more sense of responsibility when they come to the House to enlighten us on situation which has bedevilled completely the economic situation of this nation.

The hon. Minister has said much about Bangla Desh. He was taking umbrage under the plea that the situation of Bangla Desh and the conditions and strains that it had imposed on our economy were not anticipated if I have understood him correctly. May I invite his attention to page 5 of the Economic Survey of 1971-72 ? The Economic Survey had warned

[Shri Surendra Mohanty]

the Government in very clear terms in the following words :

"At the end of January, 1972, the general wholesale price index was 4.1 per cent higher than what it was a year ago. While the situation over the year was more or less under control, there cannot be any complacency in the matter, nor can the Government afford to relent in its efforts to hold the price-line. The impact of the war is yet to be fully felt in the economy and the diversion of real resources which the conduct of the war, howsoever brief, has implied cannot sooner or later but add to a certain strain."

If only Shri K. R. Ganesh would care to listen, the White Paper had clearly warned him as late as March, 1972, that the impact of the monetary expansion and inflationary pressures brought in the wake of the Bangla Desh crisis was going to be felt. The Government had been warned to take measures betimes, and I charge this Government that its complacency, its criminal neglect and its collusion with the blackmarketeers has resulted in this economic crisis which does not touch the Minister who live on perquisites but men like us who have to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow.

Now, I come to the Prime Minister. While the prices were rising, and the prices were maintaining an increasing tempo, this was what the Prime Minister had said at her press conference on the 12th July, 1972.

"I am told that the prices have shown some decline and expect them to come down further."

While the price index has crossed the 230-mark, this was what the advisers of the Prime Minister had been advising her, that the prices were coming down. While drought was stalking the land, the Prime Minister was dreaming of the monsoon that had set in. This is the kind of wonderful Disneyland in which the Prime Minister and her advisers are living. This is not *garibi hatao* ; this is *hatao the garib*.

The Prime Minister was much amused at a question a correspondent had asked her in that press conference about the *garibi hatao*

programme. She is reported to have said that the measures which were being implemented vigorously had begun to show results. What are the results ? Today there is an abnormal increase in price which is unprecedented. The purchasing power of the rupee has come down to less than 40P. This is the implementation of the *garibi hatao* programme. This is the fairy land in which the Prime Minister and her advisers are living, not very much different from the Neros who were fiddling when Rome was burning.

SHRI PILOO MODY : It is the Nehrus, not Neros.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : As I have said, the Government cannot plead that the country had been abruptly overtaken by a crisis in the price situation. The Economic Survey has been consistently continuing to harp on this and urging Government to take measures, restrictive measures, for holding the price line. Will the Finance Minister enlighten the House what measures had been taken ? Why were no measures taken to unearth black money ? Why has speculation not been curbed ? Why have banks been making fantastic advances to merchants, foodgrain dealers, and encouraging speculation thereby ?

Today Shri Ganesh has said that the food prices are certainly coming down. As soon as the debate started, someone gave him a slip of paper from which he quoted and said that the prices have come down.

SHRI PILOO MODY : It was a slip on his part.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : If a mere debate in Parliament has resulted in bringing down prices, may I venture to request to continue this debate for at least a fortnight so that the prices may come down to the 1949 level ?

DR. KAILAS (Bombay South) : Not due to the debate, but due to raids.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : It is a stunt. How many raids have taken place all over the country ? Because there was a hue and cry, a hullabaloo, they have arrested a few merchants in Connaught Circus. But how many raids have been conducted in Orissa, how many in Bengal, how many in Maharash-

tra, how many in Gujarat ? Government should not take this House for a ride.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Prices have come down because of raids ?

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : I will bring to notice another, more serious, aspect. There is no co-ordination in the economic affairs of this Government. For instance, the Finance Minister was not invited to the Cabinet discussion that took place about the rising prices.

श्री अमृत नाहाटा : यह हमारे घर की बात है।

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : घर की बात नहीं है, देश की बात है।

Why was the Finance Minister not invited ? I maintain that the Government lack concern and seriousness in bringing down prices. The various economic affairs Ministers who had met minus the Finance Minister have passed the buck to Planning Commission ; the Planning Commission has passed it back to some advisory committee. And the Neros are fiddling while Rome is burning.

I now bring to the notice of the House another serious matter which has been bedevilling the economic situation of this country. There is no co-ordination in economic matters. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture, Shri Shinde, I remember, was waxing eloquent over the green revolution, and he was assuring us that today, under his auspices, there had been so much of production that there was no storage space, there was no godown, to hold the foodgrains but the Finance Minister, the other day, in his statement before the House on Price situation said that last year the production had diminished and it might be of the order of two million tonnes. Whom shall we rely upon ? If the Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture has been waxing eloquent over the green revolution, and if he is certain that we have got 95 lakh tonnes of foodgrains in the FCI godowns, I should humbly ask him, "Why don't you release 50 per cent of it in the market ? Why have you increased it only from six lakh tonnes to seven lakh tonnes ? Why don't you release 50 per cent of the entire foodgrains

that you are holding in stock, in the markets all over the country ?

AN HON. MEMBER : To the fair price shops.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : Yes ; fair price shops. The Food Corporation of India is suffering from a complex, that it had been designed only to give support prices to the farmers. But its primary objective was also to give relief to the consumers. Here is a crisis. If the Food Corporation of India, instead of holding on to its 95 lakh tonnes of foodgrains in its stock, had released 50 per cent of it to the fair price shops— even that is very inadequate—I believe at least a component element of the food prices should have gone down considerably. I would like to know from Shri Shinde why he is holding on to the stock. Is it to feed rats or human beings ?

There is another aspect to which I should come. According to me, there are three factors which have resulted in this crisis. One is Bangladesh, and the monetary expansion that ensued, resulted on this account. It is nobody's intention to say nor is it my intention to say, that we should not have stood by Bangladesh in its crisis. But I would urge that a balance should have been struck between our national interests and international objectives. We cannot sacrifice our national interests for certain illusory international objectives. We cannot make our people go hungry and starving for some objective that may be fulfilled in some long and remote period.

AN HON. MEMBER : You are not correct there.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : It is my view.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : For Bangladesh we will undergo any hardship, and we are prepared to sacrifice.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : I am also prepared for that. If you are prepared, if you are bold enough, say that. Even today, Bangladesh is wanting from you 20 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for her northern areas. Supply them. Be honest about it. This is no time for heroics.

AN HON. MEMBER : We can sacrifice.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : I know you can say that you can sacrifice while sitting in this chamber. (*Interruption*) Please do not interrupt my speech. So, my submission is that a balance should have been struck between our national interests and our international objectives.

You have exceeded your bank credit by more than Rs. 850 crores. Add to it the deficit financing that we have been indulging in. This economy cannot sustain under the strain of Rs. 1,200 crores of deficit financing. The Reserve Bank, which is not less patriotic than you, has been warning you that the bank credit of Rs. 850 crores that you have taken has resulted in a vast dimension in the monetary expansion which this economy cannot sustain.

Therefore, in conclusion, I maintain that it is the clumsiness on the part of the Government, its reluctance, its callousness towards the real problems and slogan-mongering and the pernicious practice of taking the country on a ride through mere slogans that have resulted today in this crisis which is unprecedented in the economic history of our country.

There are 1,25,000 fair price shops; there should be one million fair price shops. A Government which proclaims that it is going to confront the price situation on a war footing, what does it mean if it is not prepared to open one million fair price shops. In the meantime the Government should also assure the House that prices would not be allowed to increase further; otherwise their *garibi hatao* will mean only *hatao garib* but not the *garibi*.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : I tried to recollect the occasions when this House discussed the Price rise since Independence. Being in this House almost from 1952, I could not say exactly, but more than 15 or 16 times we had discussed the price rise and the Government had showed its concern about the rise in prices. The manifesto of the Congress Party in 1952 and 1957 and the economic survey of the last year had expressed concern over this matter and there were promises and assurances. Everybody knows that without controlling prices it is not possible for a developing country with a pre-

dominantly agricultural economy to have success in the economic front. There are attempts made in this direction. Sometimes radio warnings are given to traders. Sometimes from Bombay some Minister talks of having new techniques of shopping price rise. Somewhere else a leader says that we are setting up a cell to see that essential commodities like sugar and foodgrains will be given at a reasonable price. All the pronouncements are celebrated in the country by the businessmen traders and hoarders gentlemen who are most ungentlemanlike by a rise in the prices.

In 1971-72 budget, we were promised a scaling down in the concentration of wealth and also reduction in the inequalities in income and a fair deal for all sections of society. Taxes were there. Unfortunately the prices of not only those commodities which were taxed but also those which were not taxed rose. An. Hon. Member from the Jan Sangh asks : why will not the price of vegetables rise if there is an increase in the price of petrol ?

We are equally vocal when prices rise but when they try to introduce politics into it by saying that prices must rise even of non-taxed commodities, we doubt if they are really concerned about it. We want to attack the hoarders. Just now he says : what is the use of attacking hoarders ? It becomes difficult for us to come on the national level and discuss. The hon. Member who spoke last put more politics in his speech when he referred to Bangla Desh... (*Interruptions.*) I do go to my constituency quite often and I came back only yesterday and I know the people's feelings there as well as the hon. Member knows. He could not convince people but I could convince people that in spite of our scarcity it was good for us to help the Bangla Desh people. Let us not play that point up... (*Interruptions*) Let us, even now, send some amount to North Bangla Desh where they asked for it. Should this point be debated here ?

There is a price rise and we want to stop it. Government's pronouncements and Government's measures have not succeeded. I understood some hon. Members to say that we are a predominantly agricultural economy and we are a developing economy and we must have such rise in prices. Yes. That is so according to the economics of planning and economics of growth. I agree with that. But the question is : how much ? How much price

rise can be allowed by a developing country with a predominantly agricultural economy like India? Between 1952 and 1962 we had a price rise of 6 per cent and Indian economy reconciled to it. But after 1962 we have an exorbitant rise which is much beyond what a developing country can tolerate excepting for a small period ending upto June, 1971 which the minister quoted. This can be shown by any statistics. Just now a release has been made by ILO saying that the price rise is 90 per cent in India which is the maximum and 18 per cent in Kenya, which is the minimum. In 1969-70 a survey was made in 10 countries about rise in cost of living and India had the unique distinction of leading the list with 79.1 per cent, Japan 66 per cent, France 45 per cent, UK 44.8 per cent, Pakistan 44.1 per cent, USA 33.9 per cent, Canada 28.9 per cent and West Germany 26.3 per cent. West Germany not being predominantly agricultural and being a developed country, 26.3 per cent is all right there. But there are many developing countries where the price rise is much lower than in India. Therefore, the exorbitant price rise in India is not justified by these arguments given by growth economists and planners that we are a developing country with a predominantly agricultural economy.

Now, whom does this affect? Not our friends sitting here, but it affects most the 38.3 per cent of our rural population who get just 50 paise a day, and who spend 60 per cent of their daily income on food, which is the main contributor to the price rise today. This leads to malnutrition and malnutrition leads to destitution. Why has this price rise broken all the frontiers set by the Planning Commission? This is because we have not been able to implement both long-term and short-term measures. It is known that increased output and regulated and equitable distribution are the real answer to the problem of rising prices. What did we do about the short-term measures? In spite of the green revolution and 9 million tonnes of buffer stock, we are today having the biggest rise in food prices. Sugar production fell from 42 to 31 lakh tonnes. But should there be an immediate rise in price? No, because we had a carry-over of 14.50 lakhs, which means we have 45.5 lakh tonnes of sugar in the current year whereas our consumption is only 36 to 37 lakhs. So, we shall still have a carry-over of 7.5 lakh tonnes next year. Why should there be this price rise? Just now the Minister of State was pleading, "I have no power. I can-

not arrest. People go to the Supreme Court." If that is so, why don't you amend the legislation and take more powers? What about the powers you already have under the Essential Commodities Act, the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act and the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act? Why are these Acts not being used? We have got more than enough sugar and yet the price has gone up to Rs. 4 a kilo in the External Affairs Hostel Market and Rs. 3.98 in Paharganj, against the controlled price of Rs. 1.98. I say these are scarcities created by the traders, hoarders and businessmen who could be dealt with by the government under these three Acts. But while dealing with them, it is noticed that there are so many inhibitions. Let them be put behind the bars rather than give them a joy ride. I read in the papers that in Madhya Pradesh the arrested people were taken in a taxi, and that too without handcuffs. Why this joy ride? The people protested that they were given VIP treatment. That should not happen. So far as short term measures to control the rising prices are concerned, government have enough powers in their hands.

Then, the government cannot stop the rising prices unless they make a fatal attack on the parallel economy. In this country, apart from the organised money market we have another money market called the black money market. I am not saying something new or original. Unless there is a killing attack on that economy, we would not be able to control the prices.

Then there is the supply matching with demand. What do we do? The moment we have got one good harvest, it is declared as a green revolution and we close all fair price shops. We allow *laissez faire*, the law of supply and demand to adjust the prices. The second year there is a failure of the monsoon and we are again in difficulty and there is consequent rise in prices. So, I would say that we have to tolerate the fair price shops in our country for a few more years to come.

Then, the consumer industry should be taken over by the government in the case of essential articles of life. I hope Shri Piloo Mody will not shout at me when I make this suggestion. The fair price shops have to continue for all time to come, whether the harvest is good or bad because this country

[Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad]

has to live with scarcity in goods for years to come. Now we notice that even in the case of critical industries there is shortfall in production. Instead of a growth rate of 9.3 per cent according to the Plan, we are now having only 3.6 per cent in critical industries. Why should it happen ?

We import cotton and supply it to the mills at controlled prices. But there is no control over the price of cloth. It can shoot up to any height. While we take over the essential consumer industries, we must have the minimum of varieties of goods. Why should we have 1,000 varieties of textiles ? Then, we must stop production of luxury goods.

When Shri Bhagat was speaking, the Minister of State Shri Ganesh stood up and asked about the massive investment, massive expenditure and massive planning. I can answer that question. In a country like ours, even though spending on Bangladesh, December war, drought and flood are essential, there are many items of non-essential non-plan expenditure which should be definitely curtailed.

Secondly, investment must be diverted from luxury goods to essential goods. Even in a developing country like ours, the economy should not allow the prices to rise beyond a reasonable level.

Then, in this country if you want to stop the price rise immediately, here and now, you must have a phased programme for taking over the consumer industries, and open a chain of fair price shops. We must also have a long-term plan of production of agricultural goods, for which irrigation is a must. Last but not least, whenever any release of supply is made from here of either wheat or barley, whether it is to the State of Bihar or Andhra, the supply must be through the Block Development Officer. However good a Prime Minister or good Chief Minister or good Secretary there may be, it is the Block Development Officer and the S.I. who determine how things should be distributed. Let there be a flogging squad to stop all the corruption. Let there be really flogging of them, be it a non-official or an official at the *chowraha*. Then only we can stop this rise in prices.

It is time that both on long-term measures and short-term measures, we must start action here and now. Let us not say that the fifth Plan is killed before it is born. I wish to save the Fifth Plan. Let it be saved ; let it not be killed before it is born.

15.56 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TIWARY in the Chair]

SHRIMATI GAYATRI DEVI OF JAIPUR (Jaipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have been listening to the debate since it began soon after 12 O'Clock. I have heard many theories as to why the price line has risen to such an unprecedented extent. I have heard many Members giving their solutions to this serious problem. I myself would like to urge the Government to tackle this problem on a war-footing, to coordinate the work of all the different Ministries, so as to bring the prices down in this country.

Many reasons have been given for this rise in prices. But it seems pretty obvious that one of them must be a shortfall in production and the other must be that there is something wrong with the manner of distribution of what is being produced. It seems that we in India have been hoodwinked into thinking that we have reached a green revolution. We were told that only yesterday. We were told that we were not only going to be self-sufficient in foodgrains but that we would soon start to export foodgrains. When Mr. Monsoon decided to come late or decided that it will not come at the right time, we suddenly found ourselves facing the shortage of foodgrains and other essential commodities. That, of course, has dispelled any myth that the Government's policy has brought us to prosperity as far as food is concerned.

16 hrs.

Excuses have been made about Bangladesh, this and that. Other reasons have been given, such as, deficit financing and so on. All these things are part of the reason why the prices have risen, I admit. But there is one basic fact which we tend to ignore and that is this. As far as foodgrains are concerned, the Government has given the excuse of present rise in prices as an element of nature's fault or element's fault. But this is not a new phenomenon in our country. In our country, droughts and floods and all these things are a

regular thing. All these things happen constantly. There is the drought in western Rajasthan. Still our Government says that this is a calamity, a natural calamity. This is not correct. What do we do? Do we do anything on a permanent basis to remedy or to combat these forces of nature? The day before yesterday, the Member of Parliament from Pali while talking about the flood situation put a very relevant question to the Minister. He said, "From the Centre you provide all this money to the States, but do you see how that money is used?" And he gave an example of the money that was allotted for Pali and which was eventually used in Bilwara. He said that a number of dams were built but they had all broken and then asked the most relevant question. He wanted to know from the Minister how many engineers had been suspended. This sort of thing is happening constantly. I myself have visited the relief works in Rajasthan during drought and I saw people sweating in the gruelling sun and getting their dole for the work they were doing. And what kind of work were they doing? They were doing work of a temporary nature, something which was not going to last. A road was being built which might be blown away if a gust of wind came. They were making holes to catch water. It is not a permanent solution. What about tube-wells, what about energising the wells in the rural district? What about rural electrification? If we have to combat these natural elements, then we have to use the modern methods available to man today. We should have rural and irrigation rural electrification. But in this country we are short of all these things. We are short of power. Only yesterday or today I read in the papers that there was going to be a shortfall in power. These are modern things which we must have in our country. At least the ruling Party has realised that ours is basically an agricultural country. That is why, they should give predominance to agriculture. At least modernise our farming methods and bring all these facilities to our rural areas.

I would urge Government to have a little sense of urgency. We talk everything here and when you go home all the things are forgotten. I will give the example of the slow pace at which the Rajasthan Canal is being built. Here is a place that could be the granary of India. I know, the other parts of the country also will claim that they want this and

that. But it is a fact that Rajasthan could become the granary of India. It has faced eight years of drought. If only the Rajasthan Canal had been built, if only railways and roads had been built, things would have been different.

Another thing that I would like to suggest is this. We have, I believe, 80,000 unemployed engineers in our country. Can you not put them on construction of roads? They can build 80,000 miles of roads all over the country. They can make these roads in rural areas so that distribution is facilitated. So, use these unemployed people for this purpose.

I would then come to the question of hoarding and black-marketing about which much has been said already in the House today. I would like an inquiry to be made into the working of the Food Corporation of India because, I believe, there has been a terrible swindling there. Unless there is a proper investigation, we will never get to the truth of the matter. For proper investigation, it is obvious that the Chairman must be removed. I have asked the Government to look into this.

There have been several other scandals that have been hushed up. Unfortunately it only reflects on the Government because today in this House so many people have said that Government is not interested in unearthing black money and black-marketeers because that is their life-line. You should dispel this suspicion that we have in our minds that all your money and all your success is through that money. I am sure you can dispel it by getting rid of those black-marketeers and black money. Let it come out into the open. There is black money, I believe, to the extent of Rs. 7500 crores. That is also responsible to the price rise. I do not want to make any accusation, but I have the experience of seeing in my State MLAs being bought with large sums of money. Where did that money come from? It could not have been anybody's white money.

It could not have been from the Rajasthan. It must have been from some black source. So, unearth it. Be honest, then, we would not be able to accuse you. In this rising prices we are all together. We all want the prices in this country to go down. I think the government also should re-examine all

[Shrimati Gayatri Devi]

its policies especially, related to agriculture if you want to bring down the prices of food-grains, pulses, etc. I think it is today's paper where it is said that the demand for tractors has gone down. It says

"A steep fall is feared in the demand for tractors, pump sets and highly mechanised equipment from next year, when the land ceiling law will be enforced . .

Another reason which perhaps takes precedence over the land ceiling issue is the policy of the Finance Ministry which has imposed duties on tractors with the disastrous result that the cost of a tractor which was once Rs 25,000 has now increased to Rs 40,000

The Union Government has information that the surplus land after the ceiling is enforced, will be about five to six lakh acres "

I want to know whether the Union Government has ever considered the effect of culling on land. Then it is a very good idea—to give land to the landless. I think the very ceiling will defeat its own purpose and production will go down even more because information has come that even those people who have applied for pumps to energise their wells are now cancelling their orders and the demand for tractors is also going down

So, I think the Government policy regarding agriculture should be re-examined and I would once more urge the Treasury Benches, particularly, the Ministers to come together and co-ordinate for this is a very serious problem and it has to be fought on a war footing. Then, I would suggest that fair price shops should be established all over the country immediately. Different people have given different figures of the fair price shops. Each Assembly constituency should have at least 20 of them in proper places.

Secondly, arrange for the despatch and distribution of grains from the surplus areas to the deficit areas.

No 3—Deal severely with the hoarders and black-marketeers.

No 4—This is most important. I would urge the Union Government to persuade the State Governments to give complete relief to the peasants who have taken loans from the Government, who might have taken *Taccavi* loans as they are already in debts. Repayment of loans should be postponed. After all, they have gone through a very bad crisis.

I would also ask the Government to re-examine their policy of putting a ceiling on land which is irrigated by the owners themselves because in some place they are facing a lot of difficulty

Once more, my plea is that the farmer should be given relief this year from repayment of the loans that he has taken

SHRI D. D. DISAI (Kaira) The subject is prone to create a sense of vehemence and even emotions have been raised. We may examine the anatomy of the price rise and I would like to make a few suggestions how we could rectify the position.

The price rise is associated with production, distribution and consumption. In the direction of production, leaving apart the nature which has played a certain part, we may see whether the Government or we ourselves have been at fault and to what extent we are at fault and if we are at fault what are the remedies that we can offer

In the direction of production there are two issues involved. One is the natural phenomenon and the other one would be associated with our own matters. Nature has directly affected us to a certain extent and we can account for it. But we may also see to what extent we have ourselves increased the cost. The cost factors in the production of various articles should be examined and also the control methods advocated by various members should be examined. Some members mentioned that between 1952-63 our prices were stable and we were following certain set policies upto 1962-63. They also said that the price rise has taken place in greater percentage after 1963-69, due to certain policies. That may be examined. We have also to see the effect that the cost of production has in relation to the remunerative prices we are committed to pay to the farmers and other people connected with actual production. There has been a certain rise on account of certain inputs

which are required for production. These may be unrelated to actual production techniques.

In regard to distribution we have to see that the minimum loss takes place and there is not much difference or gap between the cost of production and the rate at which the consumer gets the goods. Here, we are trying to establish a large number of fair price shops and organise very good purchase methods and distribution methods and probably we would be able to succeed to a certain extent. But the quantum available for distribution cannot be raised because the production itself is also related to the investment part of it. Now, in the case of investment, we have to see that the money that has been employed for production, the producer gets back and he reinvests it, or are we making any alterations in that? If the cost of collection and redistribution of the money and the cost of dislocation and relocation is to be policy of the Government, then there is a certain element of loss and a certain element of inflation. If the producer who himself has earned the money and if he is able to keep part of that money and re-employ or rather apply the money for increasing the production, to that extent, the means of production are locally available and the cost of production can be controlled because of higher production.

We have then the question of consumption. We cannot say that the consumption has not increased. This is essentially due to rise of population and also due to increase in living standards. On both accounts, we have moved up consumption, and to that extent, we have to bear the consequence which goes with it.

There have been certain demands made that certain industries should be under the control of the State; certain people have said that industries should be put under the control of private bodies and so on and so forth. Today, in India, about 87 per cent of production is in the private sector.

We know that large investments have been made also in the public sector. The policy of the Government is to enhance the investment and production in the public sector. The problem with us is that we want high production at low cost to earn enough from the public sector or rather the public sector

should be made to serve the consumer and generate social surpluses in respect of which we have not yet found a satisfactory solution. We know that for larger availabilities if the 87 per cent of production which is today from the private sector, particularly the agricultural sector which provides for as much as Rs 16000 crores of production or rather the national gross product, is indiscriminately disturbed, it is bound to reflect at a later date in certain more difficulties.

AN HON. MEMBER : For example ?

SHRI D. D. DESAI : We have been having certain farms owned by co-operatives, we have certain farms owned by States, we have certain farms owned by private families and certain farms are owned by companies, and certain farms are owned by different sorts of organisations; and, we have been able to judge from these, the figures of optimum output in relation to inputs or investment made.

There has been some talk also regarding inflation, on account of money supply. Apart from the money supply that has been knowingly made, we have not taken notice of the money supply that has gone unnoticed. Any investment or any payment which is not related to return or the goods or service is bound to affect and is in fact the deficit financing or is bound to create inflation. Therefore, today with large overheads and without the means of value analysis or test return on investment or return on what we spend; we are bound to have outgoing money without the corresponding receipt and this may offset our calculation or our relation of purchasing power to available goods. To that extent also, we may look into the matter and see if a solution lies and in which direction.

We have also noticed that some of the Members have suggested, particularly our Marxist friends, that if the whole thing were taken into the State sector, we would be in a better position. But I would like to remind our Marxist friends that the USSR is one of the largest importer of food products after fifty years of revolution. In fact, she recently concluded a contract for three years only for USA wheat alone the extent of nearly Rs. 180 crores annual imports. Of course, Russia is purchasing other food products and India is one of the principal

[Shri D D. Desai]

pal exporters of food products to that country. Therefore, we may also see whether the prices in the USSR are correspondingly kept low or lower than the prices here in respect of those commodities or articles for which we are seeking to have reduction in prices.

We may also examine whether other countries, where there is relatively a greater amount of freedom or a certain amount of punishment and reward are incorporated in ownership in those areas, have been able to make greater success or not. Particularly I remember, Panditji used to say that 'I have no authority to dismiss even a clerk'. This would naturally mean that a certain amount of punishment is not feasible if a particular system is there, whereas in certain other systems, if a person does good performance his reward and if he goes wrong his punishment are incorporated. To that extent, by selecting a suitable system there may be possibility of maximising the benefits of our investment and also the return on our investment.

We have very large investment outstanding in various sectors. These sectors should all contribute because some inflationary pressure is also on account of the State and people providing their deficit Financing our own calamities is also contributing to this inflation. A certain amount of maldistribution or lack of distribution is also going to affect some pockets. All together, we are finding today that today's situation has produced a certain hardship.

The last item I would like to mention is regarding price relationship and wage. We have seen that wages are tied to the cost of living. Wages are not tied to production. This applies to certain sectors. What happens to the rest of the sectors not covered by corresponding increase in wage or allowance in relation to price increase. To that extent, a discrimination exists.

In other words, if we are talking of price stabilisation; wage to production stabilisation is also an accepted fact. So if we pay the wages unrelated to production and make allowances for price increase, we are accepting the pushing up of prices further, in spiral.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNA-SAHEB P. SHINDE) : When my able senior colleague is to reply to the debate, I should not ordinarily intervene. But a number of hon. Member have referred to items and subjects pertaining to my Ministry. I think it would therefore be appropriate if I take this opportunity to explain some points raised here.

From the beginning, I have been very attentively listening to the speeches made. Some hon Members have made good suggestions. For instance Shri Banerjee referred to anti-hoarding measures I entirely share his views. Some other members have made similarly good points. I will come to these a little later.

But some members have raised a basic doubt regarding our agricultural strategy. Some have asked, what happened to the green revolution. Some have asked : How is it that three weeks' delay in monsoon have brought about all these problems ? I shall explain at length the factual position because I value the support of this House in the production programmes of the Agriculture Ministry.

It has been my experience that this House has been extremely generous in understanding and appreciating the problems of agriculture. At the same time, I do not share the gloomy view expressed by some hon. Members that there is something basically wrong with our approach to the strategy in agriculture. For instance, we must view this problem in a wider perspective. What was the position of this country during the last half a century ? We have been an importing country all through. Records will show that we have been importing from 1915-18 onwards. Then as a result of Partition, very rich, irrigated lands particularly in Punjab went to Pakistan. This affected production of some our food crops and cash crops like jute. Many people did not believe that India could come up with a very substantial addition to her agricultural production. But what has happened during the last few years has proved conclusively that Indian politicians, Indian administrators and the Indian farmers have the ability to overcome all difficulties on the agricultural front.

Many people have an impression that last year was a very normal year. I appeal to their good sense to ponder a little and recall

what happened last year. I am not only referring to the influx of 10 million refugees whom we fed from our own resources except for some marginal import. Last year was not a normal year in Indian agriculture. There was a very serious drought in Andhra Pradesh. It is the history of this country that whenever there is a serious drought in Andhra Pradesh, the rice economy of the country is in doldrums. It was impossible to manage the rice economy. There was drought in parts of Mysore, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. Added to that, there was a very severe flood situation in Bihar, West Bengal, and east Uttar Pradesh. Please try to look into the facts. These have naturally affected very severely, not only the production of rice, but the production of coarse grain and maize. If we have to judge the success of our agricultural strategy, despite this setback, then, agricultural production, though it has not come up to expectations, has not fallen down substantially. Our level of production used to be 72 million tonnes, 74 million tonnes, 80 million tonnes and 89 million tonnes and so on, like that. We have not yet made the final calculations in consultation with the State Governments as regards the present production, but I think it will not be less by more than two million or three million tonnes. I do not want to rush to a conclusion but the fall in agricultural production was only marginal. Had it not been so, there would have been a very substantial fall in agricultural production and our economy would have been in greater difficulties.

Take the case of procurement of rice. Some Members have asked, "Why did you not anticipate the situation and why did you not prepare yourself"? Is it the suggestion that the Government of India or the Food and Agriculture Ministry did not look into these matters? I wish to submit very humbly that we did anticipate this situation. In fact, despite the severe fall or practically no contribution or only very negligible contribution from Andhra Pradesh to the Central Rice Pool, our total rice procurement has not fallen down. In fact, it is more than last year when it was more or less three million tonnes; it has been marginal.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore) :
How much is your buffer-stock in rice and wheat?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : It is 6.5 million tonnes in wheat, 2.5 million tonnes in rice and $\frac{1}{2}$ a million tonne of coarse grains. This is broadly the position. The point is, we did not relax; even in a bad year when the kharif crop suffered, our procurement of rice is marginally higher than last year. That is the first point.

Secondly, during the last year or earlier, though the food situation was continuously improving, we did not relax. As regards the buffer-stock, our original proposal, which was accepted by the Government of India, was that we shall have a buffer-stock of five million tonnes by the end of the fourth plan, that is, 1974-75. In the Plan itself, the Government of India and my Ministry took the initiative, and we wanted to raise it to a higher level. Last year itself.—I had some humble contribution to make—when we made the suggestion, the Government of India, the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission were good enough to accept it, and the level of the buffer-stock was raised. Though our target for the fourth Plan was four million tonnes, it was raised to seven million tonnes last year. What was the reason? We anticipated a bad year and therefore we were preparing ourselves to face a difficult situation.

It would be completely unfair to the Government of India and to my Minister if hon. Members make a suggestion that we were not ready for this. In this background of the last year, several difficulties arose. There was the cyclone in Orissa, and failure of rains in the south, and floods in the north. Despite these, we took a number of measures to add to production. There were many difficulties. That is a different matter. But in that background, this year again, we had an extremely dry summer. Unfortunately, this country is predominantly an agricultural country. What can we do? What can the Government of India do? Today, 47 to 50 per cent of our products come from agriculture. There is no other way.

For example, Shri Surendra Mohanty made a little criticism of the Government. I welcome the criticism, and I am not angry with him. But is it the suggestion of Members that even in tropical countries, without rains, agricultural production will not go down? They do not know agriculture. Even in some foreign countries, in sub-tropical climate with rains and where snowfall is the normal feature,

[Shri Annasahib P. Shinde]

variations come up. I have visited some of those countries and I have studied world agriculture. There are fluctuations to the tune of 40 per cent in agricultural production in a very bad year even in the most advanced countries of the world. This is not an abnormal phenomenon in India. Our production strategy has stood the test of time. This year it was an extremely dry summer. Shri Indrajit Gupta will tell us how the summer crop was affected in Bengal because of the dry summer. In Bihar also, crops were affected. Had it been only a delay of three weeks we could have overcome the problem. There was a complete break of 25-30 days in the monsoon. Fortunately for the North India, there had been widespread rains. Many persons had become unnecessarily panicky meanwhile. In the southern States there are no rains yet. Even then I see a considerable improvement in the situation compared to the position a week earlier.

This was an abnormal phenomenon this year. I have looked into the weather chart or almost half a century. Such a situation had arisen only in 1906 and this year the situation is worse compared to 1906.

I am not criticising ex-colleagues of mine but in the good old days in a difficult situation like this the immediate thinking was to import from other countries

SHRI D.N. TIWARY (Gopalganj): If agriculture has not failed and we have sufficient stocks why have the prices risen?

SHRI ANNSAHEB P. SHINDE: I will come to that. The point I am making is that this Government led by Mrs. Indira Gandhi thinks in altogether different terms. It thinks in terms of standing on its own feet. We attach great value to self-reliance. Somebody asked: why not import pulses if we can give it to the poorer sections of the society? There is nothing sacrosanct about it; it is not based on any ideology; it is a pragmatic decision. Our whole approach is: not to go abegging to other countries simply because we find ourselves in difficulties. On the contrary we have an ambitious production programme to meet this crisis and we shall fight to the end and we shall be in a position to face up to the situation, relying on our own...

(*Interruptions.*) I value your support, without your support it will not be possible for us to take up these programmes.

I was referring to the buffer stocks. To my mind the contingency has arisen now when the buffer stocks should be used. Buffer stocks were constituted for meeting such situations. Unfortunately some people make panicky statements. True, they want to bring to our notice the difficult situation that is facing the country. I must admit that in many States the public distribution system was not functioning properly. Here comes the point raised by Shri Tiwary. He asked: when you have a sizable buffer stock, why should the prices go up? In many of the States the public distribution arrangements were not adequate or effective. It came to your notice 8 or 9 months ago and at the Chief Minister's Conference we brought it to their notice and asked them immediately to strengthen the public distribution system. That does not mean that it is bad in every place. In West Bengal the system is very good, in Kerala too, even in Maharashtra. But in the country arrangements are not satisfactory and that is why there were certain distortions in the economy even though we had stocks. There was pressure because there was shortfall in the production of essential foodgrains due to failure of the monsoon in some parts and that had its pressure on wheat also. My senior colleague would deal with the general price mechanism, etc. Already there exists a network of 1.25 lakh fairprice shops. Of course, many of them are dormant and they will have to be activated and strengthened. We have requested the State Governments to increase within 1½ or 2 months the number of fairprice shops by 20,000 or 25,000 or whatever the requirement may be and we have assured them reasonable supplies to feed these fairprice shops. Industrial cities are well covered and if fairprice shops are effectively operated, this will protect the fixed income groups the middle class and the working class. There is an impression that most of these shops are concentrated only in cities. That is wrong. Out of 1.25 lakhs, about 80,000 are not rural areas.

My ministry has taken a number of steps. Previously the Food Corporation was selling foodgrains in the open market and naturally it was going to private trade. This was done

when the food situation was very easy and FCI was saddled with more stocks. But when prices started moving up and anti-social elements were taking advantage of it, we have issued firm orders that all these open sales will be stopped and every single grain will be distributed only through the public distribution system. Secondly, out of the 5 or 6 million tonnes that were distributed through the public distribution system, half of it was going to roller flour mills because in many parts of the country *atta* is consumed instead of wheat and this was heavily subsidised to the extent of Rs. 20 to 25 crores. It came to our notice that some of these mills instead of processing this wheat, were selling it in the open market. In Bengal and Maharashtra, there was some control on the end products but in the rest of the country, there was no effective control. Now we have decided that the flour mills will be only processors and they will be paid only the processing charges. All their output will be taken over and distributed through the public distribution system. Orders have been issued and necessary powers have been delegated to the State Governments. Under the Essential Commodities Act and the Foodgrains Control Order, State Governments have powers to take effective action against hoarders, anti-social elements and profiteers. Some State Governments have already taken action as in Delhi. In Gujarat also some traders have been arrested. I welcome these steps and I wish other State Governments also follow suit.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You have given them legal powers to act against hoarders. But have you given them political powers ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The climate in the country is such that State Governments will act and the Government of India is strong enough to see that State Governments fall in line. We want enforcement of licensing in foodgrains trade, prevention of hoarding and requisitioning of foodgrains stock as and when necessary. These are our suggestions to the State Governments. The Cabinet Secretariat has convened a meeting tomorrow of the Chief Secretaries, Agriculture Production Commissioners and Food Commissioners to discuss all these matters because I do not think at the policy level there is any difference in approach as far as the political leadership in the States and the Centre are concerned.

SHRI D.K. PANDA (Bhanjanagar) : Within what period of time are these measures, which are declared to be stern measures, going to be implemented ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The State Governments are expected to act as the situation demands. Not in due course, but immediately, if I may express my personal view in the matter.

My experience of working in the Food Ministry shows that a public sector organisation like the Food Corporation must have a command over a number of essential commodities, as far as agricultural produce is concerned. I think we will be required to take a number of progressive measures. We ourselves think that there is need to re-orient the entire procurement policy. While trying to protect the interests of the producers for a remunerative price, I must say that the public sector organisation is in command of a substantial portion of the production in this country so that as and when any need arises we are in a position to meet the requirements of the poorer sections of the society and the fixed income group. Therefore, it will be the endeavour of the government in future to review the food policy in this direction. May I assure you that we are very seriously considering the various steps in this direction ?

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : May I ask a question in a very constructive spirit ? Since there is bound to be a time lag between your pious resolutions and their actual implementation, how are you going to hold the price line in the mean time ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : As far as foodgrains are concerned, the buffer stocks have to be used judiciously. We are not going to fritter away the buffer stocks. At the same time, we will see that it does not go into the hands of anti-social elements and the public distribution system is strengthened. For that purpose we have decided to release in the month of August 7,45,000 tonnes. If any State Government comes with additional demand, we would see that the reasonable demands of that State are met. We have made an elaborate exercise on this. In the month of September we propose to pump in 9,20,000 tonnes. In October it will be one million tonnes. So, progressively, as the lean months are coming, we shall be

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pumping more foodgrains through the public distribution system. Therefore, so far as the vulnerable sections of society, the fixed income groups and the urban dwellers are concerned, this would help in a big way to make foodgrains available to these sections.

I was referring to the fact that Shri Mohanty made the point that the Food Corporation of the Government of India is not taking care of the interests of the consumers. I am glad that Shri Mohanty is interested in the consumers. He must be aware of the fact that when rice and wheat are supplied to the consumer through the public distribution system, it involves a subsidy of Rs. 132 crores for wheat consumers and Rs. 20 crores for rice consumers.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : Why this discrimination ? It is all politics.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : Despite the difficulties of resources and a number of other economic factors, the Government is deliberately following a policy of subsidised foodgrains in the interests of the consumers.

I need not take more time of the House I would only end with the point that I began with. To meet the present emergency, my Ministry and the Government of India feel that the only solution is to encourage production programmes. Therefore, the Government of India has recently approved a very ambitious production programme and we have been keeping in touch with the State Governments. We have promised the State Governments that for whatever production programme which they take up by harnessing stream water or by putting up lift irrigation system or by having tubewells, if they are immediately related either to saving of kharif crop or rabi crop, all financial assistance will be given by the Government of India provided feasible projects are worked out. This is our whole approach. I personally feel that we must face the situation with confidence. If we face up the situation and, even in a difficult situation, if we continue to maintain our self-reliance in regard to foodgrains, I think, we shall be really a proud country with lot of prestige. I am sure, Mrs. Indira Gandhi's Government is quite strong enough and has the ability to face up to the situation.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the very outset, let me say that the problem of rising prices coupled with the situation of drought is too serious a problem to be exploited for settling our political accounts. Therefore, I am not touching the political issues as there will be enough platforms, enough occasions and enough opportunities when the Opposition and the Treasury Benches can settle their political accounts. But, on this occasion, with the constructive attitude and also with a critical mind, let us try to analyse the economic situation and try to find out what solutions can be worked out to see that the problem of rising prices can be adequately tackled.

While I concede that in a developing process of growth, a certain tendency of rise in prices is inevitable, at the same time, I am not prepared to accept it as a general postulation. The extent of present steep rise in general price level, the changes in wages relative to productivity, the changes in money supply and also the changes in the level of investment, all these things, cannot be explained just on the basis of that general postulation that in a developing economy, whenever there is a growth, we are bound to have rise in prices and all those associated tendencies. But I would like to tackle the problem in a more integrated way. My contention is that the problem of rise in prices can never be treated in isolation and those of us who have a stake in the planned economy development and the corresponding economic policy would always feel that the problem of rise in prices is to be treated in an integrated manner along with a number of problems that are very important.

Take, for instance, our approach to deficit financing, our approach to the pattern of expenditure, our attitude to conspicuous consumption, our attitude to the public distribution system, our entire attitude to constructive ways and means to devise some methodology by which industrial and agricultural production could be stepped up. The most important amongst all is to streamline the entire distribution machinery. And still more important factor, in this present situation, is that since the wage bill is bound to rise, more and more demands are bound to be made by industrial workers and middle-class employees and as a result of that more inflationary pressure is bound to be exerted on our economy, in such a situation, can you

unilaterally always give sermons to the industrial labour and the middle-class employees alone that they must sacrifice in the broader interest of the economy? It is here that the higher echelons of society must be told that specially in times of crisis the spirit of equality of sacrifice is to be accepted by them. Then only, the industrial workers, the agricultural labour, can be told that they have to take up the commensurate responsibility.

16 46 hrs.

[SHRI R. D. BHANDARI *in the Chair*]

In this proper perspective only we have to tackle the problem.

We have been pursuing a certain strategy of economic development, and in this strategy we have been giving priority to the creation of capacity and not so much to utilisation of idle capacity. No doubt this is an inconvenient problem, but as a result of this broad strategy, we find that so many subsidiary problems are created. As a result of the foreign exchange difficulties that are created on a very large scale, we find that the problem of utilisation of idle capacity has also become very difficult. That is why we find that the production has not been able to grow to the level which is desirable, especially in the present crisis when the problem of rising prices has to be tackled. So, all these problems must be taken into account.

Take the problem of deficit financing. Our friend, Mr. Shinde, said, he is an optimist. I am not a pessimist and I am also not an alarmist: I am a realist. I do not want to repeat the figures which Mr. Bhagat and others have given; I do not want to waste the time of the House in quoting all those figures again. At the time of the last Budget I had specifically said that, though the uncovered deficit had been mentioned as Rs. 242 crores, this low deficit—I used that term being a student of physics—this low deficit was only an “optical illusion.” I had said that it took into account all the earlier mini-budgets and therefore apparently it appeared as if the deficit budget was not very alarming. I had sounded a note of warning then that, because of the situation through which we were passing, it was very probable that this deficit financing would grow in great proportions. I am of the opinion—I might be

wrong; but I have consulted a number of experts, not the experts who believe in the theory of *laissez faire* but experts who believe in left-oriented outlook of development of the country—and many of them are of the opinion that probably the deficit financing that would grow would be of the order of Rs. 1,000 crores; Mr. Bhagat said that it would be about Rs. 900 crores, but I feel that it will be of the order of Rs. 1,000 crores. If deficit financing is going to grow to that dimension, then that poses a very big problem. That creates a big inflationary pressure on our economy. As a consequence of that, there will be rise in prices. With every year the deficit financing, as I said earlier, has been growing and, therefore, inflationary pressure has been created. To check that, we will have to stress the production aspect and also the distribution aspect. Here I would say categorically that a very wrong type of problem is posed before all socialists, and the controversy raised is what is the priority: is it for production or for distribution, as if these two problems have to be put into two water-tight compartments. We, socialists, believe that the problems of production and of distribution can never be separated at all. As a Swedish socialist has correctly and categorically said—and with the correct perspective of Asian conditions—the problem of production and the problem of distribution cannot be separated for this reason that if production in the field of agriculture and industry is to be augmented, incentive for production can be offered by an assurance of equitable distribution, and—equitable distribution is as important as production because if the assurance of equitable distribution is given, the working class and the agricultural labour will be able to produce more. Therefore, we will have to stress both production and distribution aspects.

In this connection I might like to point out to you that the Reserve Bank has gone out of its way and has given the warning—in their own style but they have been giving the warning consistently—that our Government is in the habit of borrowing recklessly from the banking system and as a result of that the inflationary pressure has grown. Only some time back you must have read the report of a comment that has been made from Punjab by the Custodian of Central Bank that the very emphasis of our industrial policy

[Prof. Madhu Dandavate]

seems to be going wrong ; no doubt, we cannot take a doctrinaire attitude but we cannot stress at this time only the heavy industries and big industries but more stress will have to be given on consumer goods industries. That is what the Custodian of Central Bank who believes in the general economic policy of the Government has said. There is a lot of substance in it. In the present conditions when prices of commodities are rising, we have to create the necessary conditions. Instead of concentrating on big and heavy industries, more stress must be laid on consumer goods industries and production of consumer goods must be brought under the public sector. The distribution system should be thoroughly streamlined. This is very necessary. The wholesale trade in foodgrains and essential commodities should be completely socialised. My friend Mr Piloo Mody may spurn this because he thinks that anything that is socialised is bad. Unfortunately, in the functioning of the Government, a very wrong type of equation is set up that everything connected with the public sector is inefficient. It is not always so.

Take the case of the transport system. In respect of the motor transport industry, when it was in the private sector, there was complete chaos, there was complete anarchy. Under the State control, certain amount of efficiency has been brought in and the remotest villages which could not be reached by the private transport could be reached by the public transport and therefore let us not identify the public sector with inefficiency. We must, I admit, streamline the public sector.

Shrimati Gayatri Devi of the Swatantra Party hinted that if we are going to have lowering of the land ceiling, in that case, there will be difficulty in raising agricultural production. I would like to say that I do not fully agree with the type of new proposal that has been put forward in regard to land ceiling. I want further radicalisation of ceiling laws. I would like to accept the original recommendations that were made by the high-powered Land Ceiling Committee, but which had been modified by the Congress Working Committee. Of course, that is not a subject that is under discussion at present. But the relevance to the main point is this. Is it the case that if lowering of ceiling is brought about, tractors and tubewells might

become uneconomic proposition with the fragmentation of land ? This argument is to be replied. We should see what remedial measures are to be taken. The Swatantra leader suggested that if there is lowering of ceiling of land in that case there will be no tractors and tube-wells available to small farmers and therefore agricultural production will go down. This problem has to be tackled and we cannot afford to have the lowering of agricultural production : this is what she said.

For this I would like to make a very concrete proposal. When the lowering of ceiling takes place and when there is some amount of fragmentation taking place, it may happen that in marginal cases utilisation of tractors and tube-wells might become uneconomic. Therefore my suggestion is that tractors may be provided to the agriculturists through service cooperatives.

With the lowering of ceiling, it is also necessary that investment in tubewells also should be socialised. If these suggestions of mine are accepted, there will be no danger of agricultural production going down.

One of the arguments that is advanced is that if prices are to be controlled both in industrial sector and the agricultural sector the production has to be stepped up.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You must conclude.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE : I will conclude. If the inflationary pressures are to be checked merely streamlining the public sector is not sufficient. The non-productive expenditure of the Government which is to the tune of sixty six per cent should be reduced. There should be socialisation of wholesale trade and distribution of consumer goods through the service cooperatives. We should encourage equality of sacrifice especially among the higher echelons of society. Both in respect of industry and agriculture, if only we have an integrated reforms, I am sure, it might be possible for us to check the prices. We can have stabilisation of prices and we will go to a very great extent from the present trend of spiralling of prices ; we will be able to reach a stage when we will be able to give protection to the poor consumer, to the agriculturist and to the industrial worker. Thank you.

17 hrs.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Gauhati) : In spite of the atmosphere of confidence generated by Mr. Shinde's speech, I have not been able to approach this debate with a great measure of enthusiasm. I have the feeling and I think I share the feeling of many of my hon. friends here when I say that we have got very little control over the price mechanism today. Price mechanism to a very great extent is under the control of some unseen forces over which, in spite of our massive majority, we have not been able to play any dominant part. Therefore, if I am speaking with a feeling of despondency, I hope, the House will excuse me and let me hope that the reply of the Finance Minister will generate in me the due sense of confidence which I have at present lost to certain extent.

It is true that there are various factors which contribute to the rise of prices. But, when we say to the common man, look, these are the causes for which prices are rising, it does not generate any comfort in him and he turns round and tells me : Sir, there may be all these causes, but how am I, with my meagre income, to sustain myself, when the prices are spiralling like this ? Therefore, in a Welfare State, in a Welfare Government, the State and the Government has the duty to keep the prices at a responsible level so that the common man with meagre income can sustain himself.

In a growing economy there will be rising prices, but at the same time, it should not be forgotten that correspondingly there is also rise of income ? But unfortunately in our country there is rise of prices, but the benefit of rate of growth has been confined in a few handful of persons ; the income has not been widely distributed ; the money generated has not been equally distributed among the common people. This is the situation in our country. We cannot compare this rise in prices with the rise in prices taking place in the other countries.

It is said that production should increase and we should lay stress on that. May I ask the Government one thing ? Have we taken all comprehensive and all embracing steps in the direction of increasing production ? If you look to the condition of the country for the last few months what do you find ? There is a flood of huge magnitude in one part of the

country and drought in some other parts of the country. These two phenomena are, it appears, beyond the control of the Government. The total loss by flood alone during the last few years amounted to a tune of Rs. 2400 crores. The amount spent for flood control is hardly Rs. 200 crores. The amount spent is not commensurate with the loss sustained by this natural calamity. If we allow these natural calamities to persist, how can we expect the production to rise ? That is the point.

Therefore, the most essential need of the hour is to do a comprehensive planning so that for production, we should not be dependent upon the vagaries of nature but on the other hand we are capable of controlling nature. But unfortunately it is our tragic experience that we are completely dependent upon nature. Dependence upon nature has affected the efficiency of the agriculturist. He has the feeling that whether this crop will be good or bad is not dependent upon his toil, but upon nature over which he has no control. This is the feeling he gets. How can we expect him to put all his energy, all his mind, into it ? If we want to infuse a sense of confidence in the agriculturist, we should see that we can control the vagaries of nature.

Not only for production, but for distribution also we must have some control. Not only consumer goods industries, but industries relating to cash crops, should be brought under the State control. There is a definite purpose in my asking that this recommendation should be implemented. I had occasion to talk to a certain person in the Income-tax Department, and I asked him 'Can you tell me where really this black money has been generated or invested ? After all, this black money has not been kept mainly in cash form. His answer was that to a large extent this black money had been invested on cash crops by the persons who indulged in that type of business. The reason is that in the case of industrial production you can find the amount from the source and try to see whether a person has invested a certain amount of money in certain industries or not. In the case of industrial production, if you go to the factory, you can find out that so much production has been there and if you try to find out the source and locate it you can find out who is dealing with that business, and therefore, the source of investment of black money in these sectors is

[Shri Dinesh Chandra Goswami]

very limited. But you cannot do so in the case of cash crops. I would ask the hon. Minister to ponder over this question. Will he please find out how much money has been invested in jute by persons after the happenings of Bangla Desh? My information is that a very large chunk of black money in the Eastern Region has been invested in jute. If you invest some money in cash crops, there is no way to trace it, and, therefore, the tendency has been for the persons indulging in black money to invest such type of money on cash crops, and to run a parallel economy. Therefore, I have put forward this suggestion that there may be a positive approach on the part of Government not only to bring under their control the entire consumer goods industry but all the industries which deal with cash crops.

SHRI P. R. SHENOY (Udipi) : The cost of basic amenities of life has been going up year after year at an average rate of 5 per cent per year over the last 30 years. Everyone wants more money for the community supplies or for services rendered so that he may maintain the standard of life to which he is used or improve it a little bit. The worst victims of this phenomenon are the people who do not belong to any organised sector of society.

The increase in the prices of essential commodities has been steep during the last few months. The rate of increase per year has now become the rate of increase per month. Government propose to solve this problem by increasing production by about 10 to 15 million tonnes during the rabi season and by improving the public distribution system, but so far as the rice-eaters are concerned, I must bring it to the notice of Government that this improvement of the public distribution system will not help the rice-eaters very much for some time to come, owing to certain mistakes committed by the Central and State Governments in the past.

Large subsidies are being given for wheat producers. This year, that is, in 1972-73, a sum of Rs. 100 crores has been provided in the budget for subsidy to wheat-growers. But no such subsidy is given to rice-growers at all. The rice-growers do not get even a paise of subsidy. The hon. Minister referred to Rs. 20 crores or so. I do not know how that

subsidy is given. According to my information, the rice-growers do not get any subsidy in this country, whereas the wheat-producers do get subsidy.

Secondly, whenever the State Governments procure rice, the price that they offer is 60 or 75 per cent of the market rate. The result is that they are not able to procure rice in large quantities and what they procure is not of good quality. In fact, in the Mysore State, the procurement price offered is always about 60 per cent of the market rate. So, the Mysore Government have not been able to procure much rice, and they have been able to procure only rotten rice. So, if the distribution system is improved what are they to distribute in our State? Firstly, they do not have much to distribute. Secondly, what they have to distribute is only rotten or bad quality rice. So at least next year some subsidy may be directed to raise the procurement rate.

There are some inter-State restrictions on the movement of foodgrains, but these are not strictly enforced. Rice is being smuggled from Mysore to Kerala freely. The persons in charge at the checkpoints are very corrupt. The result is that lorry loads of rice are being smuggled from Mysore to Kerala. This has to stop. Either the restrictions on movement should go or if they are in force, they must be strictly enforced.

A suggestion has been made that Government should take over the wholesale trade in foodgrains. It is a good suggestion. It is impossible for honest businessmen to carry on this trade because it has already passed into the hands of anti-social people. So it is better that the State takes over the trade in wholesale trade in foodgrains until we are self-sufficient in foodgrains.

श्री टी० सोहनलाल (करोलबाग) : समापति महोदय, मैं चन्द बातें ही आपके सामने रखूंगा क्योंकि और मेरे साथी यहां पर बहुत कुछ कह चुके हैं। वास्तव में जहां तक मंहगाई का संबंध है, पिछले बीस सालों में कोई भी ऐसा साल नहीं होता होगा जबकि इसके ऊपर वर्षा न चलती हो लेकिन मेरी समझ में नहीं आता क्या हिन्दुस्तान में विद्वान लोगों की कमी है जो

इस समस्या का हल नहीं हो पाता है। मैं समझता हूँ कमी है और वह कमी यह है कि जो अपोजीशन है वह अगर सही मायनों में सजेस्चन दे, अपने सुझाव दे तो सरकार उनके ऊपर विचार करे और यह समस्या हल हो सके। लेकिन मैंने देखा है कि जब कभी भी यह बात आएगी तो हमारे कम्युनिस्ट भाई सिर्फ सरकारी कर्मचारियों की बात करेंगे, दूसरे लोगों की उनको कोई परवाह ही नहीं है। जब भी यह मवाल आया तो पे-कमीशन विठाया गया और उमी दिन से बनिफ ने महंगाई बढ़ाने का चक्कर शुरू कर दिया। नतीजा यह होता है कि अगर 20-25 रुपए एक बलर्क के बढ़ते हैं तो 25-30 रुपए की महंगाई बढ़ जाती है, बलर्क को 5 रुपये का नुकसान ही होता है और दूसरी तरफ जो आम जनता है, जो मजदूर है उनको पूछने वाला ही नहीं है कि उनके लिए भी कुछ महंगाई है या नहीं। आज भी हिन्दुस्तान में दो तीन रुपये कमाने वाले जो मजदूर हैं उन्होंने कभी जवान खोलकर नहीं कहा कि हम भूखे मरते हैं, दो टाइम की जगह एक टाइम खाते हैं, चार रोटी की जगह दो रोटी खाते हैं। उनके लिए आपने कभी कुछ नहीं कहा। इसीलिए हम समस्या का हल नहीं हो पाता है। सबसे पहली बात मैं यह बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि दो रुपये रोज कमाने वाला जो मजदूर है वह भी 50 रु० मन का गेहूँ खायें और जो एक हजार कमाने वाला है वह भी 50 रुपये मन का गेहूँ खायें। अगर इस बात को सरकार अच्छी तरह से समझ ले तो मैं समझता हूँ हर साल जो महंगाई के बारे में सोचा जाता है वह सोचना न पड़े।

श्री इसहाक सम्मलो (अमरोहा) : सरकार कभी इस बात को नहीं समझेगी जब तक कि कैप्टेलिस्टों से चन्दा लेती रहेगी। (व्यवधान)

[شمري اسحاق سمنلي (امروہہ) سرکار کبھی اس بات کو نہیں سمجھے گی جب تک کہ کیپٹلسٹوں سے چندہ لیتی رہیگی۔ (دیودھان).....]

श्री टी० सोहनलाल : आपको तब महसूस हुआ जब चाय की चुस्कियाँ कम हो गईं, चीनी के दाम बढ़ गए, लेकिन अनाज के दामों की चिन्ता

आपको नहीं हुई। आप लोगों ने तो जब कभी कुछ कहा है, सरकारी कर्मचारियों के बारे में ही कहा है। आज भी 60 फीसदी जनता दो रुपया रोज कमा रही है। बिहार के अन्दर मैं गया हूँ और मैंने देखा है कि सरकारी काम करने वाले जो लेबर हैं उनको दो रुपया रोज मिलता है, उनके लिए आपने कभी आवाज नहीं उठाई। (व्यवधान) आप तो सिर्फ दफ्तर में काम करने वाले कामरेडों की बात करते हैं जिनके साथ बैठकर आप चुस्की लेते हैं। जो मजदूर है झोंपड़ियों में रहने वाले उनको जाकर आप देखिए तब आपको पता लगेगा कि वे किस हालत में रह रहे हैं। मैं कुछ कहना नहीं चाहता था लेकिन चूँकि आपने कहा है इसलिए कदता हूँ कि आप दिखावटी हैं, आपको क्या पता है कि भूख क्या चीज होती है? आप तो कामरेड बन गए और हाउस में बोल लिए। (व्यवधान)...

आपके सामने मैं दो सजेस्चन्स रखना चाहता हूँ। एक तो जो यहाँ पर मजदूरी मिलती है, अगर एक आदमी एक महीने में सौ रुपए कमाता है तो उसको दस रुपए मन गेहूँ मिलना चाहिए और दूसरी तरफ जो लोग एक हजार या दो हजार महीना कमाते हैं उनको सौ रुपया मन गेहूँ मिलना चाहिए। जब इस प्रकार का अन्तर होगा तो हमारे जो सरकारी कर्मचारी हैं, बड़े-बड़े आकिमर हैं उनको पता लगेगा और उनके ध्यान में आएगा कि इस समस्या को हल किया जाये। इस वक्त गेहूँ पर ज्यादा खर्चा नहीं होता है, खाने की चीजों पर ज्यादा खर्चा नहीं होता है। मैंने देखा है बाहर पार्टियाँ होती हैं, क्लबों में ज्यादा खाते हैं उनको क्या पता है कि घर का सामान क्या भाव आता है। इसलिए मेरा सुझाव है कि गवर्नमेंट इस बात को सोच ले कि जो मजदूर दो रुपया या पाँच रुपया रोज कमाते हैं उनको 10-15 रुपया मन गेहूँ मिले और जो हजार रुपया कमाते हैं उनको दो सौ रुपया मन गेहूँ मिले तभी यह समस्या हल होगी वरना हल नहीं होगी। चीनी के दाम बढ़ गए तो शोर मच गया लेकिन गुड़ के दाम जो बढ़े उसके लिए कोई भी नहीं कहता (व्यवधान)...

[श्री टी० सोहनलाल]

मेरा दूसरा सजेस्चन यह है कि जब यहाँ पर खाने पीने की चीजों पर सट्टा चलता है तो हमारे मंत्रियों को कोई ऐसा वक्तव्य नहीं देना चाहिए जिसका कि कीमतों पर असर पड़े। मुझे अच्छी तरह से याद है कि हमारे फूड मिनिस्टर ने एक महीना पहले यह वक्तव्य दिया कि हमारे देश में पैदावार इतने टन कम हो गई है जिसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि सट्टे वालों ने मंहगाई बढ़ाने का सिलसिला शुरू कर दिया। मुझे अच्छी तरह से याद है कि किदवाई साहब अपने जमाने में वर्कर्स को अपने यहाँ बुलाते थे। उन्होंने इस मामले पर एक स्टेटमेंट दिया, व्यापारियों को बुलाया और जब व्यापारियों ने बात नहीं मानी तो उन्होंने कह दिया कि जिसना चाहो ले लो हमारे पास अनाज भरा पड़ा है। नतीजा यह हुआ कि कीमतें कम हो गईं। इसलिए या तो सट्टा बन्द होना चाहिए, वरना मंत्रियों को ऐसे स्टेटमेंट नहीं देना चाहिए। उन्होंने सच्ची बात कही होगी लेकिन सच्ची बात का जो असर हुआ वह तो बुरा हुआ। इसलिए मेरा सुझाव है, मैं चम्बहाण साहब से रिक्वेस्ट करूँगा कि मेरी इन बातों पर ध्यान रखा जाये और जो दो-तीन रुपये रोज पाने वाले मजदूर हैं उनको कम कीमत पर अनाज मिल जाये तो इस समस्या का हल हो जाएगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Stephen. Not more than five minutes.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I suppose five minutes will be enough because almost all the aspects of this question have been fairly well thrashed out on the floor of this House. There is no difference of opinion about the urgency of the problem and the compulsions of the situation. With regard to the analysis or the reasons which have brought about this situation, there is also not much difference of opinion.

There is deficit financing on the one hand. There is slump in the production and income on the other hand. Therefore, the inflationary spiral has set in. This is the broad analysis which has resulted in this crisis. One question arises from out of this. If these are

the reasons, and if somehow deficit financing has to be there, can we do without deficit financing? Certainly we cannot do without deficit financing in the developing economy that we are pursuing. The fact that the national income is not able to keep pace with the investment of money that has taken place is also a hard reality that is facing us. Should we resign ourselves to a position of inevitability and helplessness or are we to find out some solution on these problems? It is important because the price-spiral is not merely momentary, it has been dogging us. From 1962 onwards we find that it had been a constant feature, year after year. With 1960 as the base year, we find that the price of foodgrains had reached the index 239.

Now it is conceded that the prices have got to be maintained if our plans are to succeed. Conceding that there is to be deficit financing and that national production may not keep pace with money supply and also conceding that if planning is to succeed, prices have to be maintained, what is the strategy to be adopted?

Some drastic steps have got to be taken. I fully subscribe to the view that the production and distribution of essential commodities must be taken over by the public sector. I do not find any other alternative to that.

Then comes the question of hoarding. It is no use blaming the retailer alone. The trouble is with the wholesaler and this has to be tackled. My friend Shri Ganesh has been saying that he lacks power to handle him properly. I do not entirely agree with him. Under the Maintenance of Public Safety Act and other Acts, there are enough powers to proceed heavily against the hoarding elements in this country. Those powers should be used; otherwise prices cannot be maintained.

Now, with regard to sugar, I am unable to understand their strategy. They take sixty per cent and release forty per cent for market sale. What is the difficulty in taking over the entire production and controlling the whole thing? In the past three months sugar releases had been declining. The price in the market has gone up. What is the justification for having two levels of prices—fair price and open market price? In the open market it is three times the fair price. What is the justification?

There is only one solution : guaranteeing to the consumer at least his minimum needs at fair prices. Otherwise, the poor man becomes the victim. That means additional taxation, irrespective of the capacity to pay. The burden falls heavily on the lower strata. Bad consequences follow and the economy is caught in a whirlpool. This has got to be tackled. Otherwise, the entire planning comes to a complete standstill. An inflationary rise upto 3 per cent can be tolerated, but to speak of *garibi hatao* with an inflationary rise of 7 or 8 per cent is to make a mockery of that slogan. So, this has to be dealt with on a war footing and stern measures have to be taken against the hoarders.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : Sir, though I cannot claim to have heard the full debate because I had some other committee meetings equally important to attend, I have heard enough speeches to know the trend of the discussion and though I have not heard the speeches of some important hon. members, I have got the points they have made. I am participating in this debate not with a view to participate in the debate, because there is nothing to be debated about as far as prices are concerned. We all are agreed that there is a rather unusually steep rise in prices and it is affecting the lives of the common people. It is the concern of the Government ; it is the concern of all political parties ; it is a national concern. So, there is no question of any debate as such on it. The question is, how to fight this problem effectively so that we can bring about some good results in the shortest possible time.

I entirely agree with Prof. Dandavate that this is not in any sense a political question to be divided on party lines. Of course, there was some interesting discussion on the causes of the price rise. In the statement I made in this House and in the answers I gave to questions put to me, I have tried to give explanations. Price rise is a problem which cannot be explained away by one single factor. Not only in India, but in any other country, the price condition is the result of many economic factors. Mainly it is the factor of production. It is also the result of fiscal policies of government, the administrative and financial disciplines we introduce, the awareness and organised participation by the people in the problems of the country,

the behaviour of the classes which control trade and commerce and so on. The price condition is the result of complex forces working in the economy at different times.

Many members have mentioned about deficit financing. I have never claimed that there would not be any deficit financing because I have myself provided for deficit financing in both the budgets I have presented.

Some hon. Members have said that the Finance Minister had claimed that he will control deficit financing. Whatever I said was in relation to the question of overdrafts by States. We wanted and we certainly are taking steps to see that the State Governments bring about financial discipline which is necessary for the country.

Deficit financing can be avoided by many factors. One way is to reduce non-plan expenditure. Secondly, we have to increase our services by non inflationary methods. Here I would like to say what we have done during the last three years, namely, 1969-70 to 1971-72 for raising resources. It will be very interesting information because when we get information in a cumulative form it possibly makes an impact. Shri Bhagat rightly made a mention to the deficit financing that we had resorted to last year, because last year the deficit financing by both the States and the Centre exceeded Rs. 700 crores. It is a fact of life. He also knows why he had to do it. At that time we could not have given the excuse of deficit financing for not incurring those items of expenditure. It is true that all those expenses were non-plan expenditure. But what is a non-plan expenditure in that sense ? Defence expenditure is a non-plan expenditure. So also is assistance for natural calamities and relief of Bangladesh refugees. We had to incur that expenditure. The only thing that we could do was to make efforts to raise resources, and that is exactly what we have done.

Since 1969-70 the additional resources mobilisation undertaken by the Central Government upto 1971-72 exclusive of special levies for relief of Bangladesh refugees is estimated to yield Rs. 2,900 crores net of the State share, as against the original plan target of Rs. 2,100 crores for the entire Fourth Plan period. It is said that we are not taking proper care of the financial policies of this

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country. I would say that it was the boldest effort that was made for raising resources for this country. Because, the problems before the country were very acute and they were not merely economic problems. Suddenly we had to face problems which eroded the economy of the country. In 1971 we all applauded what we did politically. But we had to pay the economic price for it. All the accumulated problems that we had to deal with in 1970-71 and 1971-72, are having their delayed effect now. I am not explaining away the rise in prices; I am not justifying the rise in prices but I am simply stating how it has taken place.

Sometimes people tend to forget what had happened earlier. Shri Shinde very ably explained the position of last year. Some hon. Members were saying that we had nearly four or five years of good monsoon, good crops, then how is it that we are having this deficit this year. Possibly, their memory is short. I know the position in three big States, the States from which I come and Mysore and Andhra. For the last three or four years there has been famine in some areas of Maharashtra especially in the entire eastern region, and neighbouring States. Also what has happened in U.P., Bihar and West Bengal? Everyone knows about it. The Brahmaputra is taking its usual toll every year.

If you see the figures, the real pressure on the prices is coming mainly from food articles and allied articles. If you go commodity-wise, you will find that the largest pressure on the rise in prices is from coarse grains, bajra and jowar, etc. In some cases, it is 25 per cent; in some cases, it is 28 per cent; in other cases, it is more than 30 per cent; and in some cases, it is even 40 per cent. I am not merely giving the figures to explain away the things. This is not the spirit in which I am saying.

It is not true to say that for four or five years, you had everything at your disposal and that you have not done well. Certainly, we have learnt a lesson. We have large buffer-stocks of wheat and rice. That means, we accepted the scheme of public procurement. But merely having public procurement is not enough. Along with public procurement, there should be a well-established system of public distribution. Unless there is a well-

established system of public distribution, the aim of public procurement may not be fulfilled. This is what has happened. I must admit it.

The steps that we will have to take is to see that the public distribution system along with the public procurement system must go hand in hand. Unless this is done, I think, we can repeat our experience again and again. This is one big lesson that we have learnt.

Mr. Shinde has very emphatically told the House that we have decided to have the public distribution system. This is a very important decision that the Government has taken. We will have to bring the States in line in this particular matter and see that the public distribution system functions properly.

Some hon. Member did make a criticism and I concede that there is some truth in it that not all the fair price shops, about 1,25,000 shops, are working well. They are mostly in urban areas. Somebody said that they are dormant. The most important point is that it is not enough to have the public distribution system in urban areas. The public distribution system must work effectively in those areas where the people have no purchasing power or where they are more vulnerable. Unless the public distribution system functions effectively and efficiently at that level, we cannot claim that we have got a public distribution system. Therefore, the most important method of fighting the price rise in this country is to resort to effective public distribution system.

We shall be on trial in this matter. We cannot say that we have taken a decision and, therefore, our responsibility is over. Ultimately, the test of a decision is in its implementation. The public distribution system means trying to distribute things which are in short supply, all essential goods which are in short supply. It will have to take coarse cloth with it; it will have to take sugar with it; it will have to take edible oil with it. When we talk about the public distribution system, it is not merely the distribution system for wheat. We will have to see that the public distribution system works effectively. But, certainly, it will take time. I cannot say that the whole thing will be done immediately.

Now, we are accepting this idea of public procurement more and more. It is very good

for increasing the production in the country. This is the basic strategy of agriculture. If I understand correctly—my colleague the Agriculture Minister will correct me if I am wrong—the basic agricultural strategy is to encourage the production by at least giving some minimum guarantee of prices to producers, at the same time not sacrificing the interests of the consumers. Both the things will have to be kept in mind. Some people say when we talk about minimum price for the producers, “You talk on behalf of the kulaks’ lobby”. That has become a fashionable phrase nowadays to use against agriculturists. I quite agree that, along with the producers’ interests, the consumers’ interests also will have to be treated as equally important and of paramount interest. But this is a strategy that will help us. Therefore, we are going in the field of public procurement more and more.

Now we have got the Cotton Corporation of India, for example. This Corporation is meant to go in that direction. Only yesterday I had gone to inaugurate a cotton purchase scheme in my State. It is giving a guarantee of certain reasonable price to cotton producers so that if we increase the production of cotton in this country, we will not be required to depend upon imports - because we lose there very valuable foreign exchange.

In the last year, there was a complaint, there was decrease in coarse cloth in the country. Do you know the reason for that? It was because we had to import the shortfall of the cotton production in this country of those varieties which are only suitable for production of fine and super-fine cloth. In this country the indigenous production which really speaking is useful for the production of coarse cloth was not there. It was also very costly. So, ultimately, we have accepted this policy of public procurement more and more. We will have to see that in the case of these commodities the public procurement policy must go hand in hand with the public distribution system. This is the major point.

AN HON. MEMBER : Cotton prices have come down.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : What you said is right. It is the only thing that has come down in the entire commodity price index. The minus figure is near cotton.

Even there if we find a price rise, it is because the coarse cloth is in short supply; last year there was less production; and this is having its impact now. The price of this year is of the cloth produced in the course of the last few months.

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI (Bombay-North-East) : What about the role of the Food Corporation?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : The role of the Food Corporation was already dealt with by my colleague. You were not here. There may be some deficiencies here and there. I do not say that it is working very perfectly, and that is not the claim made by my colleague also.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : There are very serious charges. Kindly investigate.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : You have discussed this matter here. A statement was made by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the floor of the House. I need not go into this matter. Let us go into the fundamentals. We are now discussing policy matters, policy decisions, that are necessary to meet the situation. If you go into individual and particular matters, then it will be a diversion of discussion. (*Interruption*)

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : You have mentioned about the role of the Food Corporation.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I was not merely discussing the role of the Food Corporation; I was discussing the role of public procurement. Public procurement is a new concept that we have accepted to give a new boost to our economy, particularly in the field of agricultural production. I said, merely resorting to public procurement is not going to be enough unless it is linked up at all levels with the system of public distribution. This is the important lesson that we have learnt and this is the lesson that we have to follow. This is one of the major decisions of the Government of India. It was asked: what is your programme to fight rise in prices? I would like to say that this is our position which is going to have its impact; if you have some patience for a few weeks more, you will see the result of this system. And this is my

[Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan]

own feeling. Prices, again, is a matter which has something to do with psychology. As I told you, if hon. members had read my Economic Review of this year and the last year, I have given a warning—possibly people sometimes forget it—that whatever we have done and whatever deficit financing we have indulged in, the effect of it will be felt. I have said that. Please go back and re-read it. Sometimes, it triggers some trouble. It triggers explosion. This rise in prices, delay in the rains, fear of drought and as, some members said, some speculation that this year production of foodgrains will be less—psychologically, there are anti-social elements who must have taken advantage of these. It is quite possible.

The other thing to which an hon. Member made a mention is that we will utilise not only the legal powers but the political sanction behind it to see that these hoarders are taken proper care of. This is a decision about which I would request the hon. Members to give their full co-operation, because, only today I have heard some people making a complaint, 'Why are you resorting to raids, etc?'. Well, we have to do that. We will have to continue to do that because if at all we have to make an impact on the prices, the psychological atmosphere must also be created.

For that, I must make a mention that there must be absolute public participation in the matter. I have many times mentioned that. Some sort of consumers' consciousness and pressure of public opinion will have to be constantly there and in a vast country like India, unless there is that conscious public opinion functioning at all levels, this thing cannot be solved.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : There is a price-resistance movement. The hoarders can be persuaded to de-hoard the whole thing provided there is support from the Government.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : What you have said is a good, concrete suggestion for the first ..

AN HON. MEMBER : He is laying a trap.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : He is not laying a trap because we can certainly

come out of anybody's trap. It is not a question of that (*Interruptions*) He is entering a trap, you mean? That is a different matter.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : So many people have entered the trap. I don't want.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : So, this was the question, about the distribution system.

I mentioned about fiscal policies and raising of resources. Fiscal policies, certainly, mean credit at proper time. I would like to tell this hon. House that for the last whole year as far as the credit facilities for these sensitive commodities are concerned, the banks are very selective. The Reserve Bank's policy and the nationalised Banks' policy has been very selective in this matter. We have been constantly watching the situation. When there was some trouble about edible oils in Gujarat, for instance, we immediately took steps and put necessary control over the supply of credit. Those things are taken care of.

Now, the most important part of it again is that in order to give employment we have to start works in rural areas. This requires additional supply of money and naturally, unless there is proportionate rise in the commodities that they require and the services that they require, there is a sort of imbalance between the supply and demand of goods which may result in raising the prices further.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN (Kangra) : Why not put them on productive work?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I quite agree. I entirely agree with you that without productive efforts, the employment will be meaningless. It is quite right. There is no doubt about it. But you better think in terms of your own areas where there is drought and when you have to give employment to the people, you sometimes come and tell us, 'First give them relief and then job.' Recently, we had troubles in Bihar for example in Bhagalpur, and Santhal Parganas there was some sort of food riots. The reason was not lack of food. The reason was, according to me, lack of purchasing power.

Ultimately, the price factor will have to

be taken note of by resorting to an aggressive production programme. Unless we have got a production programme, unless we have got a savings programme we cannot expect results. I would like to tell the hon. Members that as far as savings are concerned, if we take one index of it, that is, deposit mobilisation in the banks, the deposit mobilisation in the nationalised banks, I would say, comparatively for the last three years, this was a record year for deposit mobilisation—so the saving is there. Certainly, the Government by raising loans, the State Governments and the Central Government can certainly mobilise resources which will be a sort of constraint on the money supply to that extent. This is also one of the important fiscal policies.

So, I would not like to go into the details. But, some of these important fiscal policies I am mentioning are the steps which we will have to take. But the most important thing I was mentioning was about production. The Agriculture Ministry, I must say, have great imagination in formulating the policy. Again, the test is going to be in the implementation of it. As Finance Minister, I can assure you, this House and the Agriculture Ministry, again that wherever there will be a production programme, a production strategy, whether it is deficit financing or no deficit financing, they will not be short of money. I can certainly give that assurance. If deficit financing is meant for production, I do not take it as deficit financing. I do not know what the economists feel about it...

SOME HON. MEMBERS : It is not.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : Therefore, about this strategy of taking advantage of the late monsoon, we can certainly take advantage of it for the late *Kharif* crop. The point of fact is that the climatic seasons seem to be changing as change seems to be the rule of life today. Possibly we will have to change our techniques of 100 years ago.

सावन, अषाढ़ में गर्मी की प्रवृत्ति बदली हुई है। अब तो भादों कार्तिक में काम करना शुरू करना पड़ेगा।

श्री एच० एम. बर्वर्जी : ऐसा न हो कि सावन में झूला झूलते रह जाएँ।

श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हाण : अब तो झूल के दिन चले गए, अब तो दूसरा झूला है।

Therefore, Sir, now the plan is this. Wherever there is water supply, we supply them engines, we supply them power pumps, we supply them fertilisers, we supply them pesticides and seeds. This is the programme and I may say, this is a most imaginative programme. I know that responsibilities have been fixed. Certain charges are entrusted to individual officers in the States and this is being done and there is going to be a close, continuous watch of coordination as to how the States are functioning. When we say, let us fight it on a war-footing, this is exactly what we are doing here. This is certainly a production programme and a distribution programme which we will fight on a war-footing.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : You get more black-money and more contribution. This is really wonderful...

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I think you have got the right of reply...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Really wonderful, Mr. Chavan, I am enchanted.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I am glad.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : After reading the interim report, the high regard which I have already for you, has increased manifold.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I am very glad that at least for some time I could enchant this gentleman.

DR. KAILAS : Twenty rupees notes have gone out of circulation, people are afraid that demonetisation of hundred rupee notes will be done.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : He has said it many times and I have replied to him many times.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Then, why did you not publish it ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I have told you what is there in it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : When ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : Many times.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Mr. Chavan, please don't try to sell unmixed untruth like this.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I have told many times in this honourable House that in the interim report, they had made a recommendation of demonetisation which we have not accepted.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : After I had hammered it out. Let the records be examined.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : All right, if he wants to take credit for it, let him do take credit for it ..

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I am only talking about the discredit that comes on him ..

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : If he wants to take credit for petty matters, I shall not fight over it...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Only Rs. 7,500 crores is a petty matter for him. but to me it is a very big matter ..

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I am not saying that it is a petty matter. It is certainly a serious matter...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : **

MR CHAIRMAN ; That is not proper ..

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : **

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN : He should be asked to withdraw the statement...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : **

DR KAILAS : He cannot be allowed to make that kind of statement.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN : This must be expunged.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Without any advance notice, he should not make such remarks.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : There is nothing unparliamentary and nothing derogatory in what I have said. It is all complimentary...

MR CHAIRMAN : I am not allowing that. I have not allowed him to speak. It will not be apart of the record. If anybody speaks without my permission, what he speaks will not be a part of the record.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Do not drag a big issue. Under what rules are you doing it, Sir ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Because he spoke without my permission.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I am asking you under what rules you are doing it.

MR CHAIRMAN : First, he should take my permission and then only speak.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : **

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : This question of black money has been discussed here many times, and black money is a problem...

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : We have also said that. We have also raised this problem.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : We shall have to deal with it. I have said that many times. Merely talking about demonetisation itself is not going to solve the problem. If and when it is to be done, I have said that already that it is not to be announced like this. When it is done, it has to be done and it will have to be done in the manner in which it should be done.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Through you, Sir, may I ask of the hon. Minister one question ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I am not yielding.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the hon. Minister yields, I have no objection. Since he is not yielding, the hon. Member may please sit down. Let him not disturb the proceedings.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Please allow me to make reference to one point. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister is not yielding ..

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Please allow me to make efforts to make him yield.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I think Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu has the right of reply. So, let him not interrupt me now...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I have no right of reply. May I ask the hon. Finance Minister...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the hon. Member resume his seat. The hon. Minister is not yielding. So, I am not allowing the hon. Member.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : On a point of order...Kindly make the hon. Minister sit down. I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is the hon. Minister yielding ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : No, Sir. I thought that you were listening to his point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what rule is he raising his point of order ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Under rule 257.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : He must be pulled up for quoting a wrong rule.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Under rule 376. I would ask only one thing. Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan is a very dear colleague of ours in the House, and we have been crossing swords since 1967, and yet we have a regard for each other. I have regard for him, and he has also regard for me. Let Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan tell me of any instance when I have been disregarding to him. I am only asking him a very simple question, and I expect an answer from him to that question...

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : He is misleading the Chair by quoting a wrong rule.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I may tell one thing to the hon. Member...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I find that the hon. Minister has yielded and he has sat down...

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I have not yielded. I thought Sir that you were listening to the point of order.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Please allow me to put one question. I would ask one question of the hon. Minister through you, Sir. I am asking why the Government has not published the interim report of the Wanchoo Commission.

18 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no; he is not yielding. Suppose the hon. member is speaking and does not yield to an interruption, how can I allow another member to interrupt him.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will you please allow me to make an effort to make him yield ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : No (Interruptions).

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : **

MR. CHAIRMAN : What he has said will not be recorded.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I have no quarrel personally with him.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Then reply to my question. Why did you not publish the interim report ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : So the problem, really speaking.....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Why did you not publish the interim report ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seat.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : You may name me, if you like. He has to reply to my question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not asking him to reply. Please take your seat.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : No. I insist that the Government should reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will have to obey the Chair. Please take your seat.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Please do not exert yourself physically. I do not want you to fall sick. But I shall continue to insist that Shri Chavan replies to my question as to why they did not publish the report.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : **

MR. CHAIRMAN : What he has said will not be recorded. Because the hon Minister is not yielding, I am not allowing it.

SHRI SEZHIYAN rose—

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : On a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Has the hon. Minister yielded ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I am replying. There is nothing to hide about it. I do not want him to have an impression created that he is a martyr, he has raised a very important point and we have something

to hide about it. We have nothing to hide about it. I will say why we have not published the interim report. An interim report by nature is such that it can be published before the main report is published. Now when the main report is published, the interim report as such has lost its value (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN . Let him finish his answer.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I have not completed. He wanted to know the reasons for it. At the same time really speaking, we have acted on what was important in the interim report. The major recommendations in the interim report were, first, that certain amendments to tax law should be made so that under-estimation of properties could be dealt with. That Bill is before the hon. House. The other recommendation was about demonetisation. Why we did not want to publish the interim report was because the demonetisation recommendation is not something to be bandied about. This is commonsense, and if the commonsense view does not appeal to him, what can I do about it ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : He has misled the House...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him finish.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : The hon. Member has got many ways of having documents or calling them documents which are not documents. I cannot say. That is not my concern. I do not want to enter into arguments with him. He can certainly do what he likes, if the Chairman allows him to utilise this House for any purposes he likes. (*Interruption*)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : The hon. Chairman agreed. He knows it. But you do not.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order please. Let the Minister finish his speech.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : Again, we are being diverted from the price question. (*Interruption*) The black money

problem is a continuous problem and a very important problem. You cannot say that suddenly this particular price rise has come up because of black money. Black money has created many social, economic and political problems in this country which we have to face, and for that matter, we are taking a series of steps. As I told you, the Wanchoo Committee's full report on black money is before the country and has been laid on the Table of the House. We can certainly have a discussion. I had a debate in the Consultative Committee about this matter. In fact, it has been listed; we are going to discuss it here also. We are examining the suggestions made by them. We will come before the House for necessary legislation. What is there to be hidden about it?

SOME HON MEMBERS *rose*—

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I do not wish to cause harm to you physically.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nobody can do any harm physically to me. Why are you getting up? Let the Minister finish.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Under Direction 115, I wish to say that he is misleading the House, and I want to show what this Committee has said. It said ..

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not allowing you.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I will go on insisting that the interim report was not published and he has not replied to it. (*Interruption*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, please. Please sit down.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : If you do not give me the opportunity to express myself and say that he is misleading the House...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him reply. He is not yielding. (*Interruption*)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Sir, I want to say...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot obstruct the proceedings.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I am afraid it is my sacred duty to go on pointing out...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not compel me.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : You allow me to read it out.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not allowing it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Then I would not allow the House to proceed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member, Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu, is telling openly that he is not going to allow the proceedings to go on peacefully. So, he should be named. (*Interruption*)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS *rose*—

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Let the hon. Minister clearly say...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Many Members of the Opposition are sitting. I ask them, is he doing the proper thing. I am doing so, because tomorrow, the Opposition Members will come forward and say that it was not the proper thing that was done by the Chair. I am asking them to exercise their influence on him. I have requested the hon. Member to sit. Because the hon. Minister is not yielding. Let the Minister finish his reply. I am not allowing the hon. Member. (*Interruption*)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Under Direction 115, I am demanding...

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I rise on a point of order. (*Interruption*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the point of order?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : My point of order is this. During the debate, a particular document has been mentioned by the hon. Member,...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : .. which was handed over to the Chairman.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : ...and the Minister was not replying to it. You, in

[Shri S. M. Banarjee]

your wisdom, said that if the Minister wants to reply, there is no objection. The particular document has been mentioned by the hon. Minister also. He said about the interim report that because the final report has been published, the interim report has lost its significance. Now, in the interim report, there are certain recommendations which the Government in their wisdom never wanted to bring before the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point of order ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : My point of order is whether the document which is under discussion...*(Interruption)*, kindly hear me. The interim report of the Wanchoo Committee has been mentioned by the hon. Member and had been replied to by him. Both have mentioned the report. Can he not lay it on the Table of the House ? The document is here.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If he wants he can send it to me and I shall pass it on to the Speaker. If the Speaker gives permission, that will be placed on the Table of the House, otherwise not.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The Chairman can ask the hon. Member to authenticate it and lay it on the Table of the House. That was done by Mr. Kamath here in respect of the audit report.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He was only putting obstacles ; he never requested that he wants to place it on the Table of the House. If he wants to do so, he can send it on to me and that will be referred to the Speaker.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I have done so.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Nobody is denying the existence or the authenticity of the report. It has been mentioned by Mr. Bosu and the hon. Minister referred to it. That means that a discussion had been taking place regarding that document...*(Interruptions)* When Mr. Bosu asked whether that report contained any recommendation about demonetisation and why it was not published, the Minister gave reasons why it was not

published. The Minister said that the interim report could have been published before the main report and because the main report had come the interim report had lost its value. Members want to know what prevented the Government from publishing the interim report before the main report...*(Interruptions.)*

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I do not know whether I will be able to convince you because it is difficult to convince people who refuse to be convinced. If you had made that demand before the publication of the main report, that was the time to make a demand for it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : How are we to know ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : You knew it because I moved a Bill based on the interim report. You had put questions and we have answered questions on that. It was not kept a secret. We said that this Bill is the result of the interim report given by the Wanchoo Committee. I had given reasons why it was not published.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : If the Government was going to accept and implement the recommendation about demonetisation, of course you should not publish it. That was not the Government's decision ; even now it is not their decision, as far as we know, to go in for demonetisation. So what was the harm in publishing the interim report before the main report ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I said that it was Government's decision ; Government was considering the problem and there was no point in publishing it.

SHRI SEZHIYAN : The hon. Minister says that no demand was made. When the Taxation Amendment Bill was referred to the Select Committee, as a member of that Committee I wrote about this matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What are we discussing ? If you are not interested in the price problem, we can discuss some other thing...*(Interruptions).*

If you are not prepared to hear him, I will ask him to sit down. Only price rise is being discussed.

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI : Black money has a specific bearing on the rise in prices. There is a specific recommendation about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are not discussing that report now.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I want to make a personal statement under Rule 357.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not allowing it.

श्री ज्योतिर्मय बसु : जब तक जवाब नहीं देंगे, हम आगे नहीं बढ़ने देंगे, भोर तक बैठे रहेंगे ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not allowing it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I am sorry I cannot cooperate.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have to obey the Chair.

SHRI JYOTIROY BOSU : I do not obey unlawful commands.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Then I will have to take action against you.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : You can do what you like...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not allowing you. Let the minister finish. Nothing will go on record because without my permission he is saying so many things.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : **

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the minister finish his speech. (Interruptions)

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : Therefore, I want the cooperation of the House and I want the cooperation of all political parties and the public at large to make this programme a great success. I am sure if we make this programme a success, we will certainly fight this problem of price rise more effectively and see that happiness comes to the people of India.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : **

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing is going on record because without my permission Mr. Bosu is saying so many things.

Now, Mr Mehta.

SHRI P. M. MLHTA : Sir, members from all sections of the House have expressed great anxiety and serious concern about the burning problem of price rise. The members who have participated in the debate have given a detailed analysis of the situation and had advanced reasons for the steep rise in prices of essential commodities. According to the observations made by the hon Members, the reasons are defective planning, over-dose of deficit financing, want of proper distribution system, imbalances in economy, failure of Government to unearth black money, low rate of growth, decline in production in both agricultural and industrial sector and additional supply of money. These are the basic factors which have created a steep rise in the prices of essential and other commodities.

Shri Amrit Nahata, who is not present here, said that the big monopoly houses are responsible for the price rise. He wanted the government to curb the monopolistic trends of the big houses. I entirely agree with him. The Central Government is not giving serious consideration to the demand of this House to curb the monopolies. According to the *Times of India* of 8th August, Tatas and Birlas got 23 licences.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What has industrial licence to do with this ?

SHRI P. M. MEHTA : I am sure Shri Azad will support me.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : The big business houses get licence, corner production and raise the prices. So, that is relevant.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA : Between 1969 and 1970 Birlas got 13 licences for new projects. Although we have been asking for the expansion of the public sector, you have given 14 licences for new projects to Birlas. Similarly, Tatas have received 13 licences for projects initiated before 1970. These two groups top the list with 13 each. The Young Turks have become non-entities in the House. They are shouting here but this is the position. This Government is not giving any attention to the shouts of Young Turks.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : We do not agree with you there

SHRI P. M. MEHTA : You may not agree but that is the factual position. Shri Ganesh said that during the last three years the prices were stabilised. The situation is otherwise. I will give the position for the period March 1969 to July 1972. I am explaining how this Government has bungled into these affairs.

On 15th July, 1969, the Reserve Bank Governor, Shri L. K. Jha warned, "the price index is at an 'all time peak' after being remarkably steady over a period of time." It was during this period of price stability that Shri Morarji Desai was the Finance Minister.

On 3rd November, 1970, 16 months after the new economic policy, the *Economic Times* reported that the price level rose by 3.7 per cent in 1969-70, as against a fall of 1.1 per cent in 1968-69.

Three months after Mr. Chavan's second promise on the price front, the *Economic Times*, in its issue dt. 17th February, 1971 said, "combined index for commodities at 198.2 is still nearly 6 per cent higher than a year ago."

On 8th November, 1970, Mr. Chavan as the Finance Minister confessed that "Capital is still there, but is shy" when confronted with the price rise. On taking office that year, he had promised that he would give "topmost priority" to measures for holding the price line.

After six months, that is, on 13th July, 1971, the ruling Party's Parliamentary Executive was still passing resolutions expressing concern at the steep rise in prices.

On 27th October, 1971, three months later, still the *Hindustan Times* found, "authority has failed at every level to hold the price line".

On 2nd November, 1971, a UNI report quoted a survey as claiming that in Bombay the prices of essential commodities had gone up by 25 per cent after the budget. So much for the Finance Minister's promise of giving "top priority" to holding the price line. I quote now the *Statesman* dated, 4th May, 1972, "Mr. Chavan's budget presented to Parliament on March 16 has led to a rise in prices". The prices at the end of March rose by 5.8 per cent as compared to that period in the previous year.

On 8th May, 1972, the Prime Minister herself assured that the Government was determined to check the prices of essential commodities, according to a report in *Free Press Journal*, quoting UNI on that date's issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You want to mention every date ? Please conclude now.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA : Certainly, This is a stereotyped reply given by the Finance Minister. He has promised that he will try his utmost to hold the price line.

What happened to this determination of Government to control prices of essential commodities ? On June 1, the *Economic Times* reports, "A jump of more than 10 per cent in the value of commodities in the past fortnight has come as a rude shock to the common man..." This was the shock after the statement made by the hon. Prime minister. Therefore, I would only appeal to the Government, "Do not reply in the same fashion as you have replied but attend to things

properly'. I would request them to give serious consideration to the suggestions made by the hon. Members of this House from all sections. Without exception, all the members have accepted that the Government has failed to check the price line.

I would, therefore, appeal to the House to adopt this motion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are two substitute motions. I shall now put substitute motion No. 1, moved by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu, to the vote of the House.

*Substitute motion No. 1 was put
and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put the other substitute motion, No. 2, moved by Shri Surendra Mohanty, to the vote of the House.

*The Substitute motion No. 2 was put
and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11.00 A.M.

18.32 hrs.

*Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven
of the Clock on Friday, August 11, 1972;
Sraavana 20, 1894 (Saka).*